

WL2028 Your Council Your Say (Phase 2) Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As procurement/ financial support for council staff is already stretched and non-financial staff training is very basic, any new systems will have to be very smooth and simple to use, and there'll need to be very clear written guidance for non-financial staff, and clear points of contact we can rely on.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	reducing the number of systems would be beneficial as it seems we utilise multiple systems that don't interact effectively.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If this means that the council services are more efficient and cost less to deliver with no unnecessary spending, then I am all for this idea. I would ask that change management is implemented and realistic timescales in doing this to minimise any major effects to customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think this is a good opportunity to modernise systems which can be more efficient but more importantly provide a better customer service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cost reductions are necessary but to the detriment of those vulnerable in our community for example the reduction to virtually nothing in community education	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Long overdue streamlining so excellent move. Way too many collecting wages for saying 'that's not my job, I need to pass you to someone else to complete your query' tick box type support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This sounds like an option that must be taken forward to increase flexibility and agility in delivery for the future.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology could save tens of thousands. Hundreds of vans every week wasting fuel, traveling to hand in time sheets. Email sheets or use app. Use more careline tech, rather than care homes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consolidation of services would be beneficial and bringing like services together could improve processes reduce costs however reduction in staff may have an adverse effect also dependent on the proposed technology upgrades.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In theory 'the greater use of technology' sound good, but we are already in the situation that IT Services are clearly stretched and providing an inadequate automated 'self service' that clearly is not adequate; We could save huge amounts of money by relaxing our procurement procedures and being empowered to go externally for provision of services and materials the frameworks system does not give us best value;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I like the sentiment, reduction in staff numbers is a concern as this is economic activity. From a personal perspective it very much depends on the specific services that I am interested in.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with this as long as the impact to the customer is minimal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Supported, technology should allow for efficiency.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's ambition is to use digital technology to open up new opportunities for our customers and encourage efficiency and innovation.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is alright to have integration and to modernise but that should not mean quality of service declines. Most services now have no-one to answer direct calls, they are picking up voicemails and passing to relevant areas (or not the correct area) This causes delays and distress to callers, having a team that answers calls right away is so much better, constant complaints with regard to not getting through, having to e-mail etc, this is not good customer service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council can be contacted in person through our officers, by telephone via the contact centre and online through our website or via email. This range of options offers customers choice and we endeavour to deliver a high quality customer service experience across every channel.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It makes sense to use as few systems as possible. Staff can be flexible in what they are working on and there should be savings in ongoing support and maintenance. However, updating systems can be expensive in the first place. Anything that is externally contracted should be constantly under review but you need to look at what it is, whether it is really needed and can the service be delivered inhouse at a lower cost or more efficiently (even if it means employing someone to do it e.g. legal services, IT support)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	PCOS is surely due for review - schools (and very likely many other sectors of the council) can purchase equipment and resources at a fraction of the price at supermarkets and retailers like Argos and B&M if you give them the means to do so - massive potential savings!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think this seems like a sensible measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

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Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	That is good news that we are using the facilities to save money as I believe we do need to have cut backs in some areas but also we need to keep our colleagues as well	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Following on from COVID and the changes to staff working e.g., Hybrid etc then look at reducing the number of offices that the Council have sell them bring in money from there sale and reduce outgoings over the long term on maintenance heating etc of these.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with this suggestion. Noted re impact on customers but this is to be expected given the level of cost cutting involved.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The principle is clear. Not clear what the impact on customers would be?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	School transition and employability services to integrate, in line with external funding streams. Avoid duplication, maximise staff skills and resources and ensure streamlined, client centric client journey.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Make sure any new systems actually do the job that the previous ones did.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Any impact on customers should be explained unapologetically. Success stories should be heralded and put out there alongside anything adverse.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hopefully staff reduction is through natural wastage and not redundancy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation is a positive change and benefits all.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Some examples here of what this might look like would be helpful. I imagine it would be easier to streamline some services through greater use of technology than others.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds good if implemented correctly with minimal impact to customers. From personal experience you could already do much better with same budget so there is room.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thankyou for your comment
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	agree that any duplication in any service departments require updating for the best use by the public. You need real people to deliver customer service not automation which appears to be the route we're going down. Some services at this point are way understaffed hence all the overtime being carried out every day and at breaking point / mental health detrimental for some staff working loads of extra hours beyond their normal hours burnout and lack of concentration / tiredness would be an issue as mistakes will be made and then you have all the rework to resolve. Reducing staff numbers again and again doesn't help staff moral and the further loss of experience is a negative and if new staff are taken on then you have all the time and cost of training them to full speed which in our area would take months if not years to manage all the legislation changes and numerous parts surrounding the actual job. Bad enough managing the job in front of us but adding further jobs on and onto everyone you end up with the service being diluted and probably more faceless	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hopefully customers will still have the option for face to face contact	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Great increase in digital services but customers / employees must still be able to speak to actual people when required, not only through digital channels.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Expansion of online portals would improve access to local services, especially for those already working busy working normal office hours.; Rationalising estates through hybrid working could achieve cost savings whilst affording more flexible working options to existing WLC staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Excellent idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

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Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The use of technology is a positive step forward. It needs to be clear and straight forward to engage with, along with timely response rates and helpful answers to queries.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Stream lining and integration of services is good, to reduce duplication and out dated working practices.Customer facing is paramount though and the ability to contact the council should not be reduced. Remembering not everyone has the ability to text/email/webcam, etc so face to face contact is paramount. System redesign, etc should be aimed at improving efficiency and not causing more delays due to complexity.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services still need to be available to people who do not have online access	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The principle is fine, but lacks detail to provide any valuable comment. Frontline services tend to be impacted by changes in support services as they end up with having to do the work someone in support services did. Improving technology is not entirely a perfect solution and can cost a lot of money to implement and maintain. These approaches have to be properly risk assessed and costed in terms of potential consequences.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	investigations should be made into whether support functions can be more efficiently and cost--effectively provided by external organisations rather than by the council itself.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council places significant emphasis on effective internal and external integration and will continue to look for opportunities to integrate systems or processes to achieve efficiencies. The council has an existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Streamlining and amalgamation of services may reduce 'top heavy management' and surely all council services should be from within with no external contracted services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Seems logical. Concerns would be that service levels from WLC have drastically reduced with minor or no cutbacks. Now with cutbacks I would imagine service levels from WLC would be nearly non existent.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Above seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Like this idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services need to be accessible by everyone, so whatever means they are then delivered, need to be done through such ways as people can access them and this does not have a detrimental effect on the services they receive.; To make a full comment, I would personally want to know what services would be affected and the impact this would have on the services and outcomes to the community	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Less management supervisor roles and more workforce output	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as the changes/impact on the customers are clear (to the customer) and practical (for the customer) then in principle, a saving of £1.2 million is welcome and in line with good management practice.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is a great idea and will save the council a good amount of money and will make the council more efficient.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	yes thats the way to go ,but also need human input!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council places significant emphasis on effective internal and external integration and will continue to look for opportunities to integrate systems or processes to achieve efficiencies. The council has an existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.

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Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Business efficiencies are often overstated when claiming savings due to inertia. I'm saying that, process efficiency and reductions in system duplication are always welcomed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as the staff reductions are achieved by natural wastage and people are redeployed, no redundancies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree to redesign services to improve efficiency. However, using technology to replace human contacts does not always achieve this outcome for all. There are people who do not use technology as much as others, due to a variety of reasons including affordability or capability or just by choice.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to ensuring that a range of options are available to customers to interact with council services, including face to face, phone and online, and customers will be able to choose the most appropriate route for them.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think so long as any changes are communicated clearly to customers most people will understand why changes are need. I think any changes need to take into account any customers who don't have access to the internet.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to ensuring that a range of options are available to customers to interact with council services, including face to face, phone and online, and customers will be able to choose the most appropriate route for them.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If this means that the council services are more efficient and cost less to deliver with no unnecessary spending, then I am all for this idea. I would ask that change management is implemented and realistic timescales in doing this to minimise any major effects to customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council places significant emphasis on effective internal and external integration and will continue to look for opportunities to integrate systems or processes to achieve efficiencies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Focus on reducing/eliminating top-heavy management structures	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I have yet to see the council successfully reduce services in this manner. Absolutely trim the fat and modernise, however this must be done correctly of you are looking to achieve an agile function as a result.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds sensible and a good idea to save additional costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Rather than having multiple "managers" - streamline from the top down rather than disposing of front line staff - people who do the REAL work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This seems reasonable. The savings should be made at Head Office level.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Savings through streamlining services is important but will this have an impact on small businesses that rely on council contracts. Small businesses closing then impacts West Lothian and a lot of families.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services should mostly be provided inhouse and occasionally by others. External contractors seem to be a way of life within the council when people already employed within the council's workforce already have the skills required to carry out the work. That would save money and protect jobs within the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Would agree with consolidating services and reducing staff numbers, as long as it was managerial staff and not frontline staff who would still be expected to provide a service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If you reduce staff numbers, go for the higher-level managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Perhaps it would be best to reduce the top tier of staff on the highest salaries who are not productive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

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Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This sounds good as long as it does not exclude the "non digital" service users	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree be more efficient and where customers can self; Serve	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree all LAs could become more efficient and cost effective with new IT systems and processes. But this needs to be part of a coordinated plan and not a one-off, IT-based quick fix.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is also important to remember the needs of people in the community who cannot use technology but still need to access services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Also consideration of how services are used by more senior residents who don't cope too well with technology needs to be looked at too.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Making efficiency services via redesign and using more technology is good. Impact on customers though isn't actually specified what the impact would be on customers so difficult to comment on that	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think this is okay, as long as it makes allowances for the many elderly and vulnerable people who cannot afford or do not know how to access services online. There has to be a safety net so no one goes without because they cannot find someone to ask	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	So long as customer disruption is minimised and more digital and automated services should be provided.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree in principle with redesign, greater use of technology and integration.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If the systems/technology that are implemented are suitable for the tasks being undertaken and appropriate to the services they are supporting then this would be beneficial. If they are not, then this could just result in additional work and lead to staff being tied up with updating systems rather than carrying out the main parts of their role	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is difficult to provide substantive comments on this proposal as there is little concrete detail. The aim of the proposal seems reasonable, particularly relating to the greater use of technology and there are good examples of this currently in use, e.g., the booking of a bulky uplift can be made using an electronic form. However, if an increased use of technology is to be made, please do not forget those who do not have access to the internet or who find technology challenging (not always the elderly). There are times when people wish to, and need to, speak to a human being.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The use of up to date systems would be an ideal implementation. However, these systems need to be fit for purpose otherwise everyone will suffer. Rolling out underfunded systems which have been hastily implemented will have dramatic outcomes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Seems reasonable to reduce costs by using technology and being more effective in services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree, with technology always advancing the Council need to continue to update systems and streamline processes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This seems reasonable, but we must keep schools and educational programmes intact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Increased efficiency is needed- stop duplication of services- use technology wisely. Consolidation of debts with rigorous audits and checking that work has been carried out to the right standards. No more duplication.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continues to investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds okay, but it will impact on face to face contact thus distancing the council from its clients and tax payers.; How will accountability be achieved?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council can be contacted in person through our officers, by telephone via the contact centre and online through our website or via email. This range of options offers customers choice and we endeavour to deliver a high quality customer service experience across every channel. The Council regularly publicly reports on performance across the key service delivery areas.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In the drive for "efficiency", please do not lose sight of sensible and reasonable standards of service and the need to be able to speak to someone. The excellent customer service currently provided by the Council should not be undermined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will always seek to maintain or improve its standards and will keep a variety of contact options open for customers. Customers can meet staff face-to-face in various offices or partnership centres or by telephone through our customer service centre
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If functions are over staffed or inefficient in their service delivery then this cannot be tolerated and must be reviewed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Some services seem to consistently review their processes however some services seem archaic and not forward thinking in relation to modernisation without recourse.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If there are services with excess staff then of course it would make sense to make reductions, there would however need to be a discussion on how the services look like going forward as clearly if less staff less ability to undertake the work in its current format.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Spending £21.3 million to save £1.2 million seems wrong as it will take the savings nearly 20 years to pay back the spending, making the council more agile should no be at the cost of your customers i.e. the residents. Savings should be made to streamline and help residents experience of the council services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is looking to deliver £21.3 million of savings through modernisation. At the moment it is estimated that £1.2 million of the total savings of £21.3 million can be delivered through service redesign, integration and modernisation
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I support service modernisation providing the project is carefully managed so that the planned benefits are delivered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Efficiency & effectiveness is good, but 'impact on customers' is always a red flag. To the cynical it means what can be cut without people noticing too much. Councils are a vital form of administering local services and all redesigns etc should be afforded the utmost care & consideration.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	makes sense but has to be aligned with accepted changes in service standards/reduced performance (ability to maintain with reduced resources has declined)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Fine, as long as the third parties adhere to and have sufficient controls in place for data privacy. Will these third parties be based within the UK or abroad as different legal requirements are applied depending on party location.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a standard set of contractual terms and conditions for procurement which covers many aspects including data protection
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cut top paid managers! To many Chiefs not enough Indians in the council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Too many high paid chiefs and not enough ground workers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's disappointing that the council haven't spoken to staff about staffing reductions before publishing this online. I would have thought that given feedback from employees that this approach would have been seen as detrimental. We are seeing lots of key staff leaving the council, not least because of the return to office work, but also because they are now doing the job of many staff under stressful conditions. This reduction is short sighted and will only bring a short term solution to budgetary issues. There are far too many levels of management in the organisation and a reduction in these levels would be more beneficial and bring a greater saving than cutting staff. There are management positions that are simply not required and this council are very top heavy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cut the staff at the top, rather than staff at the bottom	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	agree but what about looking at procurement the council pay companies way over the odds for things	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We need to reduce the number of systems that the council uses, consolidate where we can and share systems with other councils if possible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using technology is ok if the technology provided is up to date & can cope with the programs that need to be used.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It would make sense to utilise technology but it needs to be a good reliant system not the cheapest option.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Increased use of technology may reduce cost but will it still be easy to access essential services?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Understand reasons behind this but would have concerns around increasing technology at the expense of reducing opportunities to speak to someone rather than using electronic communication	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This makes sense and will work well as long as the systems implemented are fit for purpose and simple for users.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Going digital if possible is the best way forward with the current age we are in.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Removing paper forms, digital solutions across all services that automate things would make a massive difference!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Tech moves so fast that constant digitisation is required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I can fully understand why the council would want to re-design their services with the use of technology to increase efficiency, but I think we must not forget about many of the older generation who still rely on hearing an actual person's voice when telephoning when making enquiries.; This situation was highlighted recently when my mother who is 89 tried to contact the council. She was bombarded with various options e.g press 1 for council tax etc and was constantly reminded that it is quicker to go online. How can we expect our older members of society to feel included when this is being pushed at them continually.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The use of technology is great, however please make sure that the use of technology for any services is accessible to all - not just those with the latest devices or fast internet. Do proper user testing of any service, design the service and any user interactions with that system with the user at the heart; and complete proper cross-device testing on any tech solutions to make sure it will actually work for your customers. ; ; Consolidating systems to reduce overheads and make processing simpler sounds great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Whilst this is understandable suggestion customer needs have to be considered as many do not have access to IT or have the skills to engage with WLC via this method.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	this sounds fine, but i would like the council to ensure that for people with disabilities/difficulties in using the internet, that there are even a small team of council employees who can assist with that support, in whichever area the savings are looking to be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe that the greater use of technology is a really positive step forward for the future. This means that services will be greatly improved and become more efficient. We need to ensure that important services for vulnerable people are not lost just to save money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using technology to increase efficiencies is a positive way to move forward. However, this must be offset by sufficient access to face-to-face services for the many council customers who cannot/will not make use of technology.; Tech-based solutions must also be fit-for-purpose and well-tested to ensure that they work first-time for customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Definitely agree with this - technology is always evolving and there are so many ways to use it in the working life	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Digital is a must in education but schools must be measured differently to encourage collaboration rather than competition in their approach	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This seems a reasonable means of saving money as long as the technology is user-friendly and easy for all to use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Will staff be re-trained in the new technologys, particuallary IT staff, there is much of cloud based work, as an IT professional with over 30 years experience, I have learned not to liste	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Staff training will be built into deployment of all new technologies
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Makes sense so long as the council doesn't isolate those residents without digital skills	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Further use of technology should also account for the elderly and other groups with limited access to such technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is nothing wrong with services being more agile etc. So far, the effectiveness of using digital technologies is being hampered by a lack of these digital technologies - or the associated hardware, particularly in schools- and a lack of skills/training in their use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Ongoing professional learning for staff will continually enhance the offer to pupils.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Do not use external consultants for this exercise.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think there is definitely a way to improve the efficiency of services to save money, Please be aware that this should not limit access to facilities and services, but improve how they are managed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way. Given the scale of the financial challenge, the council will have to review all services based on the impact they have on priorities, whether they are statutory or non-statutory services. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The use of 3rd party's have, in my experience, never worked properly. They bid lower then provide an extremely poor alternative. In the long run the council normally has to come in, spend more money to put it right. This is normally to the detriment of tax payers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using external companies should be kept to a minimum. Surely the council has most specialities employed within. It is well known that extra l companies charge top prices for council work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services need to be modernised, such as the homelessness and housing services. It takes too long to progress requests and it's frustrating for customers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is continually exploring ways to improve service delivery and customer response times
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This seems reasonable as long as there continues to be access to a human for elderly and those with cognitive disabilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While the services need modernising, the population is WL is ageing and the demands on the services are increasing. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Savings are required but it should not impact level of service and should be addressed as streamlining.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is so much wastage that should be sorted out first , I know budgets have decreased so this is a time to make things more efficient before spending more of taxpayers harder earned cash .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Efficiency savings within the council seems like the best place to start.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good plan. Sustainable business need to simplify and take cost avoidance measures	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	OK. Can put up with some inconvenience.OK.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds reasonable although job cuts should always be a last resort	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I understand that cuts are needed but these need to be considered carefully as everyone is feeling financial pressure and I am hopeful these cuts will not impact further.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation is a positive step and could help with effectiveness, sharing of information and communication between services. However this doesn't provide enough information on where this would be considered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This seems a logical efficiency provided there is still sufficient central support for the services who require it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	if it works the yes and saves finical savings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation is good for a lot of people who are able to navigate their way with technology but there still needs to be provisions for those that cannot manage. ; Consolidating services/reducing staff numbers often means reduced services in more remote areas - again this should be considered carefully. There are groups of vulnerable people already feeling isolated and lonely. If face-to-face services are being removed, there should be more staff available to answer phone calls/emails/letters.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Whether it's reducing staff or reorganising roles, there is definitely the opportunity to make each role more valuable to the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I love that you are looking at ways to be more streamlined and to be able to provide the best service you can, however, do not sacrifice the wonderful staff you have. I know as a customer as well as an employee i would hate to have to speak to a computer with no human interaction and this would make me feel as if i am not important and not willing to be helped.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would agree that internal systems could be reviewed and made more efficient, with minimal impact on customers. Better sharing of systems between departments and more autonomy to officers would also help in this regard	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Positive; To take this forward will require significant day to day intervention from senior leaders within the council. Previous efforts to achieve similar efficiencies have fallen short mainly due to momentum for existing processes and procedures within individual service areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Service redesign is an ongoing process and I support everyone's efforts towards the goals...; I have seen steady improvement in systems over my period here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council will also review a small number of externally contracted services, with a view to achieving cost reductions. - this should be seriously addressed and contracts should be correctly tendered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Efficiencies suggested make sense however, reduction of staff numbers is a concern if it meant redundancies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Many services can be streamlined and we should absolutely be utilising online services more. However, this should not come at the cost of hardworking individuals who have worked to get these systems online in the first place. We need to keep in mind the age range of the community and many in WL are of elderly age, utilising online services will not be an efficient or effective move.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good to see that our council is working towards greater efficiency.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Centralising systems to become more effective and cut through nonsense procedures is a good thing and will aid in saving cost and time years down the line. ; Please don't reduce staff unless their role is completely redundant. People make these systems work smoothly. Putting the work of several individuals onto one person is also not the answer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Absolutely should be done. All public sector organisations in Scotland should be streamlined, less hierarchical and processes improved. Less talking, more doing. Measured on output and results, not the number of meetings and talking shops.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds sensible although I hope the reduction in staff would not result in compulsory redundancies and that I could still speak to an actual person when I needed to.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree that modernisation of services is a good idea however I'd like to understand what impact customers should expect. Will reduction in staffing mean redundancies? Or re-training for support on other services?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduction in staff head count and efficiencies need to be focused on back office internal council functions as much as possible with little to no impact in public facing services.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good, but compulsory redundancies should be avoided as far as possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Another round of redundancies - what happens to these employees? How do they make a living while the council makes savings? There will be more impact to the customer - which means a worse service for the money we put in. Using contractors rather than paying employees, surely you are paying them more than you would employees? Maybe we should realign the management at the council - usually top heavy and on the highest salaries.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This could only work as long as the merging of existing departments doesn't overload the remaining staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Provided no compulsory redundancies are made, providing efficient & effective services is what is needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree that using technology is going to cost less in the long run and could improve on services but the fact it could lead to job losses isn't good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think this is the most appropriate place to start trying to make savings as I think savings should firstly be made within the council's own internal business policies and procedures before asking residents to accept service cuts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	reducing staff must also include management, less staff means less managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Use robust technology for all areas of customer service, but make sure that customer interaction is acknowledged and actioned.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds like a good idea to make best use of technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	WLC should be a laptop based organisation, reducing the need for desktops;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Investing in new technologies is paramount to increasing efficiency	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	greater use of technology to increase efficiency and effectiveness is a good way to go but you must make sure the correct system are used.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Loss of jobs at a financially disturbing time is a frightening prospect. Perhaps cut backs that still ensure employment even less hours be an option as redundancies can be costly, will impact some of your staffs families into poverty however needs must as certain areas of council services are a must for investment and improvement so I realise this is a difficult balance. Investing in technology is absolutely vital in the modern age though to streamline services and be cost effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hopefully any use of technology will be well tendered and still have the right amount of human interaction.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While the implementation of efficient technology is generally welcomed it should be remembered that not everyone has access or can utilise technology and we are still in an era where face to face interaction is required. In time this will continue to reduce as generations pass but please remembers there will always be vulnerable people who require a personal interaction.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Less systems cost less money to maintain.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Greater use of technology is good as long as there is sufficient availability for access to services for clients who are unable to use or access technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Its not clear what the redesign would involve nor its implications for service delivery. Improved use of technology and AI should of course improve overall productivity of services, but it inevitable involves use of the capital budget. With an estimated budget of £400m or so. A 10% per annum overall saving for the Council, generating around £200m of savings should be sufficient for the Council to avoid a debilitating 18% increase of Council Tax for individual households over the planning period spanning a Cost of Living crisis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology is a big area that is being used to support services, this should never take away from vital face to face support that is necessary to combat loneliness and isolation. the use of technology within the council infrastructure is good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Advances in technology should be used to increase efficiency and working practices modernised to also increase efficiency .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Have to make sure redesign is adequately thought through and that technology introduced is appropriate for the task. Don't want to spend more on technology and then find there is no reduction in staff, or even worse it leads to an increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Better systems is a must, everyone must adapt to technology or loose out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	With the cost of living continually on the rise some people might not be able to have access to technology as their income may have to go on their high energy bill. The council would have to take that aspect into consideration also.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	New technology should be used to improve efficiency, however don't forget that customer facing staff are critical to ensure councillors and executives don't lose touch with public concerns or aspirations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ok to make technology changes but staff need to be able to have face to face with people who do not have technology skills	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree that the council needs to modernise its approach to systems. There are far too many. Many managers seem reluctant to move with the times. Service design and modernisation of processes does not automatically mean there will be a negative impact on customers. If done well, it should enhance the customer journey.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Personally wouldn't affect me so all good although what about the elderly who rely on face to face, all government log in and passwords are too overly complicated for most people, I have to go through 2 log in screens just to pay my childminder which is my weekly chore	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The above paragraph is vague and does not give any examples. There are still many people who are not able to use on line services for various reasons, many of them elderly. This needs to be factored into the plans as they should not be excluded from using the council services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	When redesigning services please consider though who do not engage in online activities, services and these methods of communication as we run the risk of isolating these individuals more and more. From a service user point of view it is often far easier and more satisfy to engage with a real person when services go wrong(we still need good customer service).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with this as long as there is still actual people to talk to incase technology fails or can't help. Also for the elderly who struggle with technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The decreasing of the number of systems used by the Council and the integration of the services will most definitely improve the level of services we provide for the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	More on teams would be useful and more accessible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using technology and innovation is always a good thing to achieve efficient and effective workflows in all areas. But it does come with its challenges, and the implications and the risks should be carefully reviewed before making such decisions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	More digital info and access must be the future.Transparent information on costs of contracted external services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing systems makes sense as you would save on the cost of service and maintenance.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing support staff isn't a good idea. It just puts more pressure on those that are left. I would agree with consolidating systems and resources though. I would also reduce high end management roles rather than support staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good idea; perhaps integrated systems using tech need a person or two to oversee?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduction in number of systems would be a good idea as the council currently has a large number of bespoke systems in each service area but investment in an integrated system would be required to streamline a system that can be utilised by all service areas and would be easier to maintain and plan for routine upgrades and costings.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sleeker systems that allow information to be logged and information readily available for customers when they require an update. Joined up working would benefit customers and staff. Focus on the customer and staffing and reduce time wasted trying to suit all requests from departments. Design systems with those using the systems and value their opinion.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As a trained financial person, undoubtedly, if you have multiple systems on top of multiple systems that can't talk to each other and requires extensive and specialist training to use, then, this needs dealt with. This may lead to potential staff savings but be mindful that reducing staff numbers may result in significant loss of knowledge.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Also new computer packages that were introduced to cut costs and streamline work should be investigated to see if they are living up to the full potential that was promised when introduced and if not then investigated why and work to get them working at full potential. i.e Itrent system.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Becareful and have a back up system as computer systems fail or can be hacked.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Do the council still use outside contractor's? If so could this not be done in house ...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services should be provided in house whenever possible as sub contracting is a costly measure and ultimately lacks vision of sustainability within the authority.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree that any savings can be offset by a more efficient way of delivering services in many areas, However i would not like to see vulnerable people being affected by any cost savings in the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I presume this is office workers as systems do not clean streets,empty bins or teach,feed or cross children at school . Not averse to this as ling as we as the customer do not suffer	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This does sound like a good saving as the council does have a lot of red tape and is very top heavy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree - there is further work which can be done across this area. However, consideration should be given to ensuring adequate resource (funding for systems along with staff resource) is in place to drive efficiencies forward.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This seems reasonable. it is difficult to assess without knowing the impact on customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with this measure however it may disproportionately affect people with a disability/ additional needs or those living in poverty.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to tackling discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and promoting good relations both within our workforce and the wider community. We have a duty to consider how we can work to tackle discrimination and accelerate progress towards equality for all.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You need to state what the impact to customers would be. The use of teams internally is a good idea but there needs to be a face to face service for customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I understand money had to be saved but to the detriment of the people. We already see a reduction in services especially the road cleaning and blocked drains which are not being cleared. This results in flooded roads and footpaths.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to deliver its core responsibilities including its statutory duties and obligations. However, it is important that these duties are undertaken effectively and efficiently and any reviews will seek to ensure that this is the case.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is already difficult to get any response to non-standard enquiries. By all means streamline bulk transactional stuff but keep a human interface for non-standard issues. It is especially annoying when a call from the Council is unavoidably missed and there is no facility to phone back other than through the constantly understaffed single contact number.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This appears to be a prudent approach - providing that reductions in staffing were achieved naturally, with the council retaining its no compulsory redundancy commitment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	without seeing what the changes are it is difficult to see how efficient/effective they will be or their impact on customers. the more self-serve the processes are the more it will free up staff to deal with those who need to speak to a member of staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services and development teams within the wider council service in the civic centre should be reduced before and in school re-structuring is considered. The core priority of education is our pupils and we should therefore plan changes which will not directly impact their learning negatively. We should not be reducing PSW allocation or increasing class sizes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The changes to Devolved School Management will increase the autonomy of Headteachers and teachers to make decisions at a local level to benefit pupils in their school. The Council intends to implement the proposal whilst still fulfilling its duty to meet the needs of every child.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with streamlining and digitalising services however concerned about cuts to staffing. The council is one of the main employers in West Lothian and I am concerned about job losses. Also concerned that job losses mean remaining staff become stressed with overwork.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Completely in favour of more cost effective use of services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I find accessing council services unnecessarily complex in terms of which departments hold which information and provide the accompanying service. This cost saving measure sounds like it will improve this issue. I think this is a positive proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The current workforce of mixed tradesmen appears excessive considering that there appears to be a van for each employee on the payroll. Look seriously at reducing the number of tradesmen and more importantly vehicles and fill the gap with privately sourced tradesmen at competitive pricing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I recognise the need to cut costs but am concerned that those who most rely on council will still be able to access it - ie that the support is available and that it is easy to find out about + apply for.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's usually cheaper to have everything in house and you also have greater control and no dispute over who has responsibility. Customer facing staff members are vital, I hope that when looking at efficiency you will look to thin out management levels as you can't get fewer people to do more and expect to keep morale and service levels high	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While consolidating and saving money we must still strive for a customer facing environment for customers as not all customers use online facilities and can find them obscure and confusing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I am happy for this to happen if it means keeping these services but bringing them together.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council places significant emphasis on effective internal and external integration and will continue to look for opportunities to integrate systems or processes to achieve efficiencies.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree that there should be some sort of modernisation and integration however I hope the council will keep face to face appointments as well as telephone consultations. At present trying to get through to West Lothian Council by telephone is frustrating as there are always long queues.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Great idea, but could the WL Council re-purpose the staffs rather than pursue staff reduction.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce unnecessary bureaucracy as well as redesign processes to allow reduced staff required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff reduction would be ok but currently staff have increased workloads as when staff leave WLC their tasks get divided up amongst the remaining staff as no budgets to employ replacements and the salaries are used as cost savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It will be good to see if it actually happens and they spend the money wisely but already my service has had its renovations delayed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This makes sense. It would be helpful to understand more about what the impact could be for people. This would help manage expectations about what will be possible for the council to deliver moving forward.; Local authorities have had their budgets squeezed, by government and now horrendous inflation, for 15 years. The low hanging fruit for savings has long been picked and cuts are all the councils can do now so it's picking the least bad options.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is supported but there is continued growth in work requirements and demands in these areas through ever increasing Scottish Government returns, audit requirements and additional support to frontline service delivery and customers so important that this is taken into account when agreeing savings in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This sounds like a sensible saving, streamlining of platforms and greater use of IT should help to reduce costs with minimal impact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think people like to see people, speak to people face to face, I do think things can be streamlined using better technology but the infrastructure is not there in some buildings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with this as long as the impact to the customer is minimal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think this seems like a sensible measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Excellent idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Above seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Like this idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No objection	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree although more detail required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yea this is a good idea to help cut costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	GREAT WORK, KEEP IT UP	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds like a plan at least	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This would potentially be a beneficial move. When dealing with the council it is not always clear which department deals with what issues and some complaints or concerns are lost through passing of information from one to another. If the right departments are amalgamated then this would minimise the confusion and get enquiries to the right people quicker. I am not fully aware of what is externally contracted so can't comment on that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds good to me.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would agree with this priority	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with statement. Reduction in finance systems will make the finance system as a whole more efficient and effective. If staff have to go then it simply means that we fall in line with our private and voluntary sector counterparts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No issue with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree Integration and modernisation is required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	yes I agree it would be good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes, this cost saving of £1.2M is needed, please proceed with these changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Easier to talk to someone	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sound good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds like it will benefit	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe that we have to modernise, it makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds good!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds like something that is reasonable to do to save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe the above, if actioned, would save money which can be utilised for other purposes within West Lothian Council agenda.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as services are not negatively impacted this seems fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is an excellent idea, keeping as much as possible in-house could be a potential saving in some areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This sounds great and where possible we should be	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Seems sensible to review the internal processes to see if efficiencies can be used. This option provides no detail of the likely impact on a west lothian resident, therefore very difficult to provide meaningful feedback.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Updated and efficient systems seems like a wise and effective way to maintain a good standard of service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good to consolidate and use better technology to be more cost effective	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agreed, I think the service quality will reduce but can see this as being a good potential saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We have no choice but to modernise the service and move with the times, life has changed so much over the past few years, very much digitalised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I am aware the local authority is using automation in certain areas, and I think this is a good cost saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It makes sense to take advantage of technology to change services in order to save money. Has to be balanced with accessibility needs, however, to ensure council services are fully accessible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Support this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Definitely modernise and make Council more efficient and accessible to public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Always sad to see reduction in staff but these changes seem necessary and any increase in efficiency is a good thing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation and further use of technology makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I'm sure these support services could be delivered more cost effectively and efficiently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	excellent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with these measures	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consolidating the number of IT systems is the only reference that has some meaning. Would be useful to know what systems, or what a review would do, how it would be achieved etc. However, this is common sense to use the best suitable IT systems available to the council as surely if IT is properly implemented it in itself will deliver savings let alone the contractual cost reductions. Therefore, Im not sure why this is in the consultation as this should be happening as part of routine business.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Will some level of face to face service still be maintained across the authority for those unable to access digital services?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Efficiencies should be sought through consolidation of systems and reductions in duplicated services provided by different areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with this approach however please ensure there are always going to be ways for the more vulnerable to use services through access to people not just technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council has too many systems and could reduce these greatly by focussing on core systems such as its CRM system and Office 365, providing employees with less duplication of work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think there needs to be a good balance between modernising and I am absolutely all for embracing new technology and ways of working but it needs to be clear that staff members (people) still have a key role, there are real people to speak with if and when needed and that the changes support everyone in West Lothian, particularly the elderly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Depends on what services.; Think more should be done online.; Reducing staff numbers is not a good idea - especially if that means not being able to talk to someone face to face.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is obvious that efficiency savings can be made when we see staff being sent out in 20plus mile per hour winds with leaf blowers, 5 staff to plant a small replacement tree and grass cutting in snow. Poor judgment by someone . No coordinated approach to drainage maintenance causing flooding, and deterioration of our roads infrastructure to name but a few. Proactive rather than reactive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sensible plans	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree that reducing costs is the first step council should take.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Seems a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In favour of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is an good way to save money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This seems sensible and long overdue given its standard good business for any organisation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Just achieve the 1.2m saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree - regular review of internal functions is required to be efficient (as for other organisations/businesses).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This sounds like a good solution	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes essential; To ensure efficiency of working	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Further redesign of functions makes financial sense but this requires individuals with high levels of skill to achieve successfully. Having the right people, with the right skills will be essential to enable this activity and there is a question mark over whether such skill exists within the local authority. There is a real risk of excessive workload for those in new amalgamated roles leading to absences and further weakening service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This sounds like a positive plan.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Worth looking at.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with this proposal if it's was user friendly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes save but what is the cost to put this in place	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds reasonable most private companies have to operate in this manner	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with this proposal as long as online is user friendly with clear explanation .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This looks pretty sound, with emphasis on efficiency and technology. Unfortunately wages can make up a very large part of budget.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree as long as the service levels stay the same.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe this would be for the benefit of all as now everything is digitalised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Greater use of technology is good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Am happy with whatever the council is doing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This sounds like a sensible way to save money. My reading of this is that there will be minimal cuts in services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I will be happy with that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	yes I need help	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	sensible to move to single systems of work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as there is minimal disruption to access and services to the customers then being able to save this considerable sum is worthwhile.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I am ok with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Is this something that the council thinks the community will understand? Designing services to meet community needs in the most cost effective and efficient way is something that should be done no matter whether it is part of a consultation or not, it should be a structured programme of continuous review and strict governance review to ensure outcomes. What services will be redesigned? What will the redesign process look like, for example will it include community and staff engagement to redesign the service based on service needs etc? What will be integrated? Integration of what?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes. The council will engage with customers when redesigning the services they provide to them.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	All services should be encouraged to think about redesign and automation in order to deliver efficiency. My service has worked with the Transformation / digital team to redesign some processes and enhance our use of technology, and I would encourage all others to think about doing the same.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes. The Corporate Transformation Team is an enabling service which can assist services with modernisation and service redesign processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Assuming this is a cost saving per year and not over the three year period this is admirable.; ; To complete this, it has to be certain that the integration will help reduce cost as well as improve the efficiency. Otherwise, people will be frustrated that services are not happening as expected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This would provide significant savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Integration and greater use of technology should allow for reduction in staffing with minimum impact	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think redesign of services and service delivery models is an activity which should be undertaken on regular basis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yet more costing measures. Anything to improve operations is good. I am still trying to get the Council to help me get my Autistic child back to school and the council services for doing this are pitiful.; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In the private sector the modernisation of the organisation is common place and is done on a regular cycle as part of a ceo's job. That is why they get the largest salaries. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Scottish Government funding will be insufficient to match the cost of providing council services, and therefore it is necessary for the council to identify ways it can save money through modernisation and new ways of working
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with all except the outsourcing of key jobs within	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree but staff burden should not be excessive. Reducing external contracts is worth looking at.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It could be possible to make more savings by outsourcing services and reducing vast amount of staff. Technology is a losing battle the systems we have are not fit for purpose and some of the system's integrity is negligible. System outages far too often. I.T. don't appear to offer robust system checking services and I.T. rely on the user to tell them when things aren't working. Tenant facing systems are definitely in need of modernisation tenants portal causes more issues than it helps.; ; Double/treble/quadruple handling of cases/jobs is evident. Unfortunately, At times we deserve our reputation. We need to speculate to accumulate here we need to pay more for people on the ground to become an organisation people want to work for again increase our reputation for customer satisfaction and get issues dealt with at first attempt.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with outside contractors not receiving contracts in my opinion they do not do as good a job for a lot more money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	merge similar services together and look to reduce top tier management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	merge similar services and it will reduce workers and save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Merge similar services together and look to reduce top tier management efforts look to reduce or minimise	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good plan - there is far too much wastage in the pay or Sector	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Costs more to outsource	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As hard as it is staffing levels are one way to cut the budget and maybe pointless exercises such as electrical checks need to stop if people owned houses they wouldn't have these anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Instead of farming out contracts surly its cost effective to use your own workers to do this work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Redundancy packages for staff with long service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The councils are all top heavy in every department. This level of management would never be tolerated in the private sector.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Use less contractors or shop around and use the cheapest and most effective companies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This in theory is a good move however you will need to ensure that training is provided for the staff left to do the jobs! I do think that cutting costs higher up the tree is more effective as the lower paid workers tend to be the support staff who are actually the ones that do the majority of the admin work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree, The council should maximises it's use of technology to benefit staff and customers alike. Any redesign however should not adversely impact on other council departments therefore changes made need to have a full understanding of any consequences or changes elsewhere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Always best to have integrated systems which can be used council wide, this will result in better results and lower costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Embrace technology however staff levels have to be sufficient to provide the current level of service - less staff = poorer service. Important to get value for money with any outsourced services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This proposal sounds rather vague, I'd like to understand more specifically what you mean by 'internal business' and 'redesigning services'. Having said that, modernisation through more technology (provided it will stand the test of time) will make processes more efficient.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

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Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This proposal makes sense. Businesses should utilise digital technology to its full extent, where and when it is most appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is important to meet statutory (legal) requirements especially in many of the services that the Council offer and these should not be compromised. Using extended technology is a good way forward, though not everyone that WLC looks after will be computer literate and have access to a computer to access the services. There would have to be some provision for these people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology is a good way to reduce staffing for manual repetitive duties (such as invoice reading software). This could possibly manage cashflow more efficiently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Move more services online	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There are too many systems being used which is not only time consuming but is not cost effective	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do have concerns re reducing frontline Services as not all digitally included, and this could impact on potentially vulnerable clients. Additional of technology would help to reduce as long as alternate frontline service still available. Services have been overwhelmed under the Cost of Living Crisis so reduction to services does not seem best time to introduce cuts to services..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This would only be achievable with the appropriate infrastructure in place to support service redesign. For example, Clickshare technology available in all Council buildings to facilitate hybrid meetings to promote efficiency, more responsive agile solutions for web content to encourage a digital first channel shift, more automated functions/bots to direct customers to online information and solutions, better telephone systems to appropriately direct calls to relevant services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cheapest IT does not mean more efficient or effective service- needs to be systems /services that are viable and reliable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Invest in the best systems available that can be future proofed. Don't go for the cheapest.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	its important to remember about people who still needs traditional service and face to face contacts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe it would be a good idea to integrate the use of technology to increase efficiency and effectiveness however I would hope the reduction on staff numbers would still provide a suitable level of support to our customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	All systems need updated at least a few hours a week my pda will not work did maintenance on system over the weekend and it would not work till nine on Monday	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Efficiencies gained using better use of technology will be useful as long as the technology and support to that technology is good enough to limit any negative impact on services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Supportive. I've thought the online reporting tool of road pothole issues excellent and the response is virtually immediate. ; My only concern is that people who don't have access to technology still are able to access services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree but there should also be ways that clients can still access services who have learning disabilities or are older who don't/can't use technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	WLC should be moving forward with technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Think it is beneficial to consolidate the services, if this means that departments are talking to each other more. ; ; However not everyone can use technology and this will be bad. Need to make sure people that can't use technology that the options are still there.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I accept that staff numbers will have to reduce and agree that efficiency can be improved by use of technology and more efficient systems. However it is critical that people can still email to contact a real person rather than automated replies/ only sending to pre written responses which is highly frustrating and often of no use	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I hope careful thought is being put into the potential negative impact on customers who are not able to utilise technology to access services (ie elderly).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Moving to use technology to increase efficiency may not suit all stakeholders and relies heavily on ALL having access to technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would welcome innovation and better use of digital solutions as long as it didn't mean just removing the work from one service and integrating it into the work of other team and service managers. it has to add value and help save time. It would also be helpful if it was able to link with external data gathering systems or use similar parameters to avoid duplication for users.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Since the council deploys a very large number of IT applications, it would make sense to rationalise these where possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation is good and will help us be ready for the future but please also be aware many of our service users will not be able to use technology or access this. The current cost of living crisis means a lot of people will not be able to afford smart devices or Wi-Fi or the fares to travel to centres.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree that there must be changes to maximise the efficiency of the council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	However, in general yes redesigning services should happen with better use of technology however statutory services should also be appropriately funded to deliver their statutory functions. Any redesign of such statutory services should also be done by someone or a team of people who understand what the main statutory functions are and what cannot be changed legally by either getting in specialised consultants or	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Finding way to work smarter will help. In addition to the above, better comms systems, review or working practices (systems and procedures) can all help to reduce costs. Reviewing working practices and stopping doing things that are no longer necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	on the face of it, it seems to make sense. i would hope that the impact on customers will be minimal as over the last few years customers have received less from the business and paid the same.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While I understand the need for these savings, I am concerned that customers will not be able to contact Officers when they need to in a manner that is easy for them.; £1.2million is an enormous sum of money, how many staff will be lost, and what are the external services you are reviewing?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds OK - my only question is how much do the remaining externally contracted services cost / could they be taken in-house to save more?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Redesigning anything is only valuable IF it works long term. Make sure it does, fed up with Civil organisation "redesign"	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Streamlining is fine - hope customers will be made aware in advance how this will affect them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I am aware of the need to modernise services and can't see any other solution	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	All for redesign and innovative thinking - Be bold!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I am hoping that this modernisation will not leave existing West Lothian staff without jobs. I would like to think people would be redeployed within the new council structure.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We should look to streamline services where possible to improve efficiency as the Council is largely inefficient.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Every council needs to modernise	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	External contracted services on some occasions end up costing more than in house, how will this be measured	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I support the ideas of service redesign and greater integration. There is a danger though that we 'spread' ourselves too thin and that we grow the publics expectations, and we are unable to meet this demand for our services in the future.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Whilst it is admirable to try and make services more streamlined, the reality is that the council undergone efficiencies and redesigns in the past that means we are already lean and deliver in the best way. In order to achieve this level of service we have to reduce the scope of services delivered, concentrating on real statutory services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Any removal of duplication of services & effective use of available resources would be good. Sad if it impacts jobs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Use of externally contracted services implies adding profit to external, (private), companies and merely indicates that better WL Council management should achieve the desired cost reductions. DO NOT USE EXTERNALLY CONTRACTED SERVICES - EVER!; "Management" is repeatedly shown to fall far short of its name. I continue to have to deal with WL bureaucracy that indicates levels of management that are not worthy of the name. Does this go right to the top? No doubt it will be the people that actually do the practical and physical work who will pay in any jobs reduction. This £1.2 million cost reduction is unspecific.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with consolidating services and systems but why reduce staff before that is in place? Surely it would be better to plan and implement that properly before considering staff reductions. Surely there shouldn't be any need to impact customers at all.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If the changes have been designed to make the service more streamline I would support it. However losing staff at this point is never great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	streamlining procedures and staff inefficiency would be a plus, there's nothing more frustrating for a resident asking for something to be done and being told something to the effect of " sorry council employee x isn't available and there's absolutely no one remotely qualified to help you "	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hi am pleased to see the council is trying to figure proof it's services. However I am assuming that this may result in staff. Cute as efficiencies are put into place. I am correct if so .how will the cuts happen. If it will be by staff being located into different areas of the council. Have staff been told about how the changes will possibly affect them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This appears sensible but it should be ensured management type posts are reduced alongside the lower level jobs in proportionate numbers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Without saying what the impact on customers potentially is, it is difficult to meaningfully comment on this proposal, however if this leads to greater efficiencies without a major impact then it is worth considering.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as it's not sub contractors coming in	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with the modernising of services and infrastructure however this should not result in job losses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Yes I agree money needs to be spent wisely and possibly streamlined as long as no more services are cut	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Restructuring is important (although often difficult) for many organizations. The larger the organization - the less efficient you become. Yes, restructure accordingly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I fully support these measures and would encourage them to be expanded where possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Contracted Services seem like a good idea in term of cost saving. However, from the experience on contract Project Manager, it would take a little while for any new contractor to get use to with the process and how thing work. As a short-term employee, contractor seem to not be invested in the business which have impact on the quality of work which will not become apparent until after they have left the business. This would add additional cost to the council to resolve any issue.; My suggestion would be the council creating a specialist team who can be flexed as required instead of using contractor.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Keep all work in house rather than outsourcing to profit driven contractors	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not a lot to argue against here if you can do it so be it ; Management tiers in Departments should be three at a maximum	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think the reduction of staff numbers is inevitable. The council just has to ensure they happen in the right place. Council services need to be prioritised and only those functions and services which are essential need to be continued.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Stop tendering work out work to outside firms services are not the same with outside contractors	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Should review the outgoing cost of external contractors when wlc employees are leaving to work for these contractors on more money. How are the companies managing to pay higher wages	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would definitely look at all externally contracted services and seek fair and fixed price work contracts and not waste so much on inflated and unreasonable quotes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good idea. Could this expenditure be reduced further? ; For example, cut politically motivated 'services' to the bone - including all Gaelic translation. No one in West Lothian NEEDS to speak Gaelic - why should I pay through my taxrs for this?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Don't fully understand but would support the review of externally contracted services to achieve cost reductions	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Stop getting contractors in to do the work the employees are capable of.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with reducing tiers of management more frontline staff are needed to actually do the work outside	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If done properly with good management and clear plans this is sensible. WL Council should consider removing any silo working, critically review bureaucracy impediments and not be constrained by misguided views that some things cannot be changed. A root and branch review should be conducted by there should also be an ongoing commitment to review every three years or so to ensure the council services still provide value for money and deliver the needs of the people of WL, particularly the most vulnerable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce the top management and their bonuses but do not reduce the staff who are really working for public and not just attending meetings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Change the upper management structure that will reduce no of 6 figure staff and save significant amount of money without reducing services to anyone. This will also mean streamlining services under fewer management that will work more efficiently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sensible, use other departments to review to ensure its usability and "makes sense" to non-team members.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would have thought the latter part of this would have been part of regular reviews anyway, for all contracted services!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Department merging utilising resources from different departments.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduced management, and other higher grades.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with modernisation of services and using appropriate technology to streamline interaction with the public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Whilst understanding the need to use all types of technology I remain concerned for small groups without ability to use these being marginalised	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I suggest care if paying for new technology involves losing hard working long serving staff. Experienced and enthusiastic staff are your best resource.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consolidation of systems could bring potential benefits, however consideration must be taken to ensure that preferred systems are fit for all types of purposes / services that could be using them. There is a danger that preferred systems are used and various services and processes are forced into using that system that isn't quite right for the particular process. There may also be issues with the fact that these systems are contracted and may have contract expiry dates in the near future. Is there a risk that any re-tendering of these systems cause more upheaval to transfer large numbers of processes / functions to another system?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good idea, as long as consideration is given to retaining some access for customers to council staff for advice etc rather than just relying on electronic contact	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would hope that there would be a focus on external cost savings first and streamlining IT systems.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Little impact on communities and technology should make things quicker.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	New technology is not free, what are your estimated IT costs for implementing any new system? Whilst beneficial in long run will savings be materialised this year if outlay greater?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology is inevitable. If it saves money then it may be the best way	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Greater integration and shared technology needed. Too much duplication and wasted manpower	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is ok for me as I have internet & access to a computer & technology however not everyone has this some access so as long as the local Library is available for people to use I think this would be ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Implement effective and efficient technology systems instead of overpriced systems that don't do the job.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	A vague proposal so difficult to comment. However, it's always worth looking at ways to make systems more efficient. Technology doesn't and shouldn't always replace good people though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think technology should be optimised to create efficiencies and cost reduction.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation is fine through digital technologies however you need to be mindful many people need face to face or someone to speak to ; ; Bring more contracts back in house and retrain existing staff to deliver to protect posts ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Living in an age where everything is done online I highly; Commend this, (apart from the job losses), but you do need to ensure that customers who cannot/ do not like to use online systems	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I like the sound of this. Use of technology and service design should be a way of making services more efficient whilst improving service for the customer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Better use of technology and brining contracts in house where possible is a good idea. Need to ensure there is relevant support for customers in making use of technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There are still a lot of elderly people who prefer to speak to someone in person. Not everyone has access to a computer etc. Technology works great for those who know how to use it !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I support this as long as there is an alternative in place for people who cant/won't use online or other technology services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	With long-term investment in robust and intuitive digital services, I see no issue with the above proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	- Agree with the review of externally contracted services.; - Face to face customers service is crucial and makes difference essentially for elderly people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services should be strongly encouraged to modernise and digitalise their processes. There is still too many services working in ways that are costly, inefficient and result in delays and poor outcomes for customers. This should be an imperative.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	a lot of issues could be reported on line or have queries raised. However not everyone has access to internet or are comfortable using a "hit no ?" key . Therefore hopefully the option to speak to a human would available.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Of all areas called out here, I believe the "number of systems" should be looked at as a priority. We have many duplicate systems in use across the council and services tend to buy their own solutions without checking if we already have a product in use in another service that would achieve most, if not all, of what is required. Due to contract obligations this would obviously take some time to produce a benefit but long term would reduce costs massively as well as allow IT to have more knowledge of a smaller number of systems in use across the council instead of being spread thinly across a vast number of them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't want to see a move to digital by default without putting in place the support mechanisms to help those with low digital skills / no access to technology (and I don't mean the underfunded library services that currently exist, put digital skill training in place in libraries).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Review all systems/applications used by the council to share more data internally, try to cut down on duplication of information/data. does the council have more that one application that is able to do the exact same thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using technology is great, however, there doesn't seem to be any alternatives for for customers who are not good with this. Too many of council services rely on everyone using online, this needs to made easier for older/disabled users.; Your phone system is unhelpful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Supportive of things that encourage greater use of technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology should already have resulted in change - it should now be the go-to option for everything, unless there are legitimate reasons for doing otherwise, such as connectivity or particular needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The way forward is further use of technology , however there should still be someone in each department who is accessible via a telephone , as not everyone has access to technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as these technologies are already in place and no further money is going to be spent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While I understand technology is the direction most councils are heading . However the is is not for everyone . Some struggle with this method . I suffer from anxiety and to try and go online to find help support etc is very frustrating and I end up giving up and then can find myself ignore important issues like rent arrears etc . Some older generations need to be able to physically speak to some one and they don't know how; To use technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Depending on the increased of technology to increase efficiency and effectiveness then additional technical resources may be required to support and maintain the technology implemented	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It makes sense to integrate teams where possible and reduce the number of systems.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Great idea if it will modernise, streamline and make services more accessible to customers. However please remember the elderly may struggle with services that are only online.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Some systems require modernisation as they don't all work cohesively, therefore integration would also help with this aim.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using technology more is great if it increases efficiency, but staff will still be needed for those who struggle with technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as the quality of IT support is good, but the elderly may be disadvantaged.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If the impact is minimised then it is important to maximise use of new practices and technologies to reduce costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Of course it makes sense to use technology and automation to help but existing online services (like Ipayimpact and my gov account are really not intuitive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernising systems can only be a good thing for greater efficiency.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Whilst I agree that some services can be streamlined by utilising technology and online services I think it is imperative that a person approach is still available. Not all staff are proficient in IT or using technology and this can be very off and can prevent people from completing their tasks making us less effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Support modernising with technology. Council would benefit from more services being able to be completed online as opposed to in person or by phone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using technology can be great for the majority of people but some people may need extra support to access services in a non tech manner.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Schools would struggle	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing external contractors seems like a sensible decision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	External contractors should be minimised where possible - don't let cuts in the council end up feeding private companies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Great news!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do not agree with any cost saving measure that result in people losing their jobs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with proposal- this saves time in the overall service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I absolutely agree with modernisation, it is the best way to save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is an obligation on the council to operate as efficiently as possible but also to maintain robust controls and provide 'customers' with a good level of service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I totally agree that we have to modernise the service, unfortunately this will have impacts. The country is in some mess just now!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	improving internal efficiency and streamlining finance functions to realise cost reductions, with minimal impact to service users seems like a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think that service redesign/modernisation can be beneficial, however, staff 'on the ground' who know current systems, it's pros and cons, what works and what doesn't need to be listened to. Consultants may need to be brought in to co-ordinate systems changes but I've worked in big organisations that pushed forward big changes to systems where the consultants offered 'shiny baubles' but end product wasn't fit for purpose. Do not dismiss anything as 'just' operational!;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds like a plan that any modern business would implement when there is a budget deficit. WLC should be no different	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The service does need modernised but this needs to be done in a way that it doesn't have to much impact on the residents of west lothian	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernizing the service is a good start as well as reducing the number of outdated and old systems the council uses. However, based on my experience reducing the number of employees may not be ideal. I would suggest re-training the employees and widening their abilities to be able to use them in different fields where there are shortages. If women of the employees are crosstraining you could create multi-function jobs and use these to fill in the gaps if needed. Maybe concentrate on retaining your employees who are delivering above average and offer them permanency instead of giving them no future options which will eventually make them leave.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as it's not sub contractors coming in	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unnecessary duplication of work would also make this saving. There are multiple services es that form the same function but could be consolidated into one team, reduce management costs and increase reach across the council. Training modules that are designed to be mandatory but a repetitive are a waste of staffing hours when those competencies could also be combined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	People, process, technology. Ensure business process aligns to the objectives and fits the optimal use of the technology and people are adequately trained. Go for it;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation is highly appreciable . Service is most important rather than cost	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance for our customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Obviously if you are able to cut costs without effecting services this would be an ideal however I am unsure how realistic that is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I'm all for efficiency and effectiveness however not everyone is able to use the internet, face to face contact is better for people who struggle to contact statutory service providers, will there be options available for people who can't use technology. The council shouldn't use external contractors, money is being lost using outside providers, would it not be better build the capacity within your own organisation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consolidating internal services to reduce costs sounds very sensible idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Think smart, remember that many people are assets to your services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree Council should look to reduce internal service costs but should also look to share with other councils	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council places significant emphasis on effective internal and external integration and will continue to look for opportunities to integrate systems or processes to achieve efficiencies. The council has an existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Council should ensure that it is as efficient as possible and concentrates on key services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Integration of services and staff resources can be useful if it assists service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services should be run efficiently as possible but not at the cost of customer experience.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Systems changes inevitably involve a period of uncertainty, teething troubles - good communication goes a long way to helping with this and users more likely to be patient if they know what to expect (so, thanks for being open about an impact on customers).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	These seems a good way to streamline Council services as long as the redesigned services are fit for purpose.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think this is "do-able" and necessary; As a former council employee for very many years I saw so much waste of people resources and systems ... having to sit at desk and complete KPI and other "grey" tasks while 'real' work went undone ... too many grey suits ...sadly the old school stayed as others much better equipped left	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The redesign, integration and modernisation also need to be in consultation with the staff responsible for its implementation and needs to meet the needs of the staff and customers. Adequate time and training need to be provided to staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council requires to be innovative in its approach, to streamline systems and automate processes wherever possible. Consideration could also be given to working in partnership with other local authorities or partner agencies to share business support functions. This may require an internal culture shift. While all areas of council activity should be considered, it is also recognised that where support functions are already lean, that there is an increased business risk associated with further reducing staff numbers. Alternative service models - such as shared services - may require to be considered to build service resilience and capacity.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There's very little information here for me to comment on - do I support service redesign, integration, and modernisation? Yes, however I want that without putting more stress on staff (i.e. not asking less staff to do more work).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Although I understand the need for this measure it is sad to have to reduce or combine services as despite the intentions of the Council there are always dire consequences for the residents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Like most businesses there is probably an overlap of services, streamlining the services is always good as long as essential services can be maintained	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Seems reasonable, but you need to prioritise the important services (I would have thought you would anyway) and the most widely used services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In agreement to consolidating departments, however enough time should be allowed for a safe and smooth transition;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Any consolidation of services would make sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The savings on integrating services and updating technology packages far out way any slight impact this would have.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Go for modernisation it will help set up for future	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as the changes genuinely make things more efficient, then this would be a productive change. If, however, efficiency and effectiveness of these changes is assessed by council managers tasked to implement change, then this would bias the results. Measure of efficiency and effectiveness should be performed after changes by independent auditors.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Working smarter is always a way to save. Would prefer that services were provided in house.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Great idea to bring council services into the modern age - I deal with a lot of government bodies and the opportunity to refresh the approach of working is not often there, so take the chance while you have it. Making a leaner, more efficient, effective service can only be positive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In house services should be cheaper than external services so right to review them. Services impact for local residents has to be minimal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will look to explore opportunities to deliver services more efficiently through effective partnership and procurement arrangements.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If this means putting a stop to council workers arriving in a lorry to clear a small grass turf then taking a picture to prove the job was done then fine!! This occurred when my husband thought that clearing a garden sod from the footpath and placing it in our garden refuse, to save a member of the public falling over it resulting in our bin not being emptied and we were advised to put the item back where it was and work men would come the next day to lift it as of course they did WHAT A WASTE OF COUNCIL MONEY!! TIME!! and no way does it take two workmen in a truck to do a simple task like that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council does review staff performance and work scheduling on a regular basis. This particular incident will be investigated.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I'm all for saving money especially when the council send two men in a lorry to pick up a small piece of garden turf then take a picture to show it happened what a waste of time and money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council does review staff performance and work scheduling on a regular basis. This particular incident will be investigated.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	make it easier for people to start up there we business by not want all the money in one go	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Through the Council's Business Gateway Service support is tailored to meet the needs and requirements of individual businesses.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think this would be a good idea to reduce and streamline systems as there are quite a few.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Fully agree if consolidating services and systems brings a reduction in costs this is necessary at these times. the impact on customers will be expected as long as the message is delivered prior to the impact and customers are kept up to date	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Introducing technology with the primary aim of displacing workers and adversely impacting customer services would only seem to ultimately add to the challenges in future. Using technology to enhance services and worker efficiency or quality of working experience seems like a great idea. Would like to see retraining programmes added to the commitment for those workers displaced, perhaps focussing on the new tech economy growth skills areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Don't just ask one person to do two jobs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Whatever way you can do things to provide great service and still save money would be most beneficial to the council and its employees.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I guess the bottom line is that we don't go back to how the Council used to reduce staff every year. Lowest paid in schools shaking in their boots waiting to hear whether they are being kept on or moved on. Those considered key workers during the pandemic cast aside to save management. Your staff need certainty, and whilst it is lovely that you are asking staff what they think, the reality is we all need to know if our jobs are safe. You are going to cut staffing, we need to know how and when. It is going to be a voluntary redundancy ask around or a cull or early retirement. We need answers and certainty not a survey.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Replacing staff with technology does not fit well with the communities of West Lothian and as usual it's the people in greatest need who will suffer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If you do it right greater use of technology shouldn't impact customers. Sounds like an excuse to cut staff and say you've used technology to streamline processes	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The organisation is already struggling to provide a good level of service to customers, many areas have lost "back office" staff and this is resulting in a lack of communication with customers which ultimately means that more customers are contacting the Customer Service Centre to chase up outstanding work/ service failure and more service areas are using the 280000 number as a dumping ground/ switchboard to answer calls when their own staff are not available. Different service areas all operate via different systems such as Open Housing, CRM, Confirm, Incab, Open Revenues, APP, PNC, AIM, PECOS etc - we need one system that is stable and reliable and integrates with all others and is supported fully (24hrs) by IT- we do not currently have this. Until this happens it is unlikely that the current technology that is in place will support more customers to self- serve which incidentally most customers do not want to do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think we should focus on our own staff and look at keeping as much work in house as possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Frontline staff are already at minimum capacity. Delivery of more services with less staff does not work. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Frontline staff are already at minimum capacity, with all the services we are delivering we need staff to be able to deliver these.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers at a time of financial crisis ? Is there no better way ? While most of west Lothian are tech savvy there are huge numbers of residents who are elderly or disabled and do not communicate or access services this way. There may also be huge amounts of people without internet access or selling there laptops / tablets/ phones to make ends meet.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Having worked for West Lothian Council for nearly 10 years now and having already been through WLC Transformation which incurred massive reduction in staff numbers already, feel this will not only put more strain on the existing council staff but will also affect the mental health of existing staff members. Staff turnover is already at an all-time high and with pressure already building in the teams.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Having worked for West Lothian Council for a few years now and having already been through WLC Transformation which incurred massive reduction in staff numbers already within my team, I feel this will not only put more strain on the team but will also affect the mental health of existing staff members. Staff turnover is already at an all-time high and with pressure already building in the team, I fear this will further affect staff's mental health. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You have reduced staff and funding in education to its detriment. I really hope that there will be no more cuts as staff are already on their knees.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology has a usage, but in my service although our tenancies all have technology, pendants etc. you cannot replace people. I have found it takes me longer to do things online due to the way the programmes are set up e.g., wages this used to take me 15mins all in, now it can take a full day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think the use of technology has its place but my worry is that reducing posts will place greater pressure on already over stretched resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not sure how this would work for people with no access to internet or that can not read/write.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do not want to see any "savings" only a consolidation and increase in services would satisfy my belief that tax payers money is best spent on tax payers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If more technology is being brought in, rather than staff, not everyone is necessarily able to use these technologies, whether they have digital skills or not and many don't have any digital skills.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council supports a programme of enhancing digital skills for both customers and staff to ensure that everyone is able to take advantage of the opportunities that going digital provides.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Anything that hacks away at an already depleted service, reduces staff numbers - sack people - is not increasing efficiency or indeed effectiveness	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How will this affect employment opportunity and how job satisfaction. Usually, with reduction is staff numbers usually comes with increased work load for others.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Where it is stated that there will be changes through redesign and then goes on to say reducing staff numbers - can you be honest and not do a 'service redesign' which removes a post/posts and say what it is ie someone loses their job but is not entitled to Redundancy - as we have a 'no compulsory redundancy' policy therefore meaning people go on to redeployment list but if not suitable job at same rate have to take lower pay or leave so no job no payment - this is my understanding of course	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Pushing all IT systems out to the cloud will result in higher costs and worse services. Services are already cut to the bone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Too many staff not providing services as expected	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduction in job numbers would restrict the authority in being able to carry out its day to day functions required by government. Therefore this should be the last call of action. Unless it can be shown that joining of teams together results in same job posts overlapping with each other.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Lots of money wasted in external contracts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	those stupid solar bins are a prime example of BULLSHIT for the sake of adding a were sustainable tag. they are to complex and costly to make and still are not being emptied enough and iv seen at least 1 burnt.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Supervisor /management staff numbers need to be reduced there is more of these than front line workers in most departments and aren't always needed as years ago these positions ran smoothly with just 1 or 2 now you have 6 and 7 doing these jobs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Please make sure that the internal business support function redesign does not just push the service provided from Support teams onto the Delivery teams as has happened previously. For example, HR functions just moved from HR Service to individual Teams meaning that Individual teams are having to conduct the HR function and associated administration instead of their day job of delivering a service, without any additional support. The reduction in Procurement Officers has also had an adverse impact on the workload of both Procurement Staff and individual services. There are also additional forms to be completed which are excessively lengthy, such as Contract strategies. This form has to be shortened for lower value/ lower risk and simplistic contracts to save both officer and staff resource and time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Frontline staffing is already facing major challenges. Any reduction in staff numbers could cripple the service and have a seriously detrimental seect on the standard an number of services we are able to provide.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Purchase suitable plant and equipment in good time so that you do not waste resources on hiring unsuitable plant and equipment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would be worried that reducing staff numbers may mean that there is not enough staff to cover work streams or cover holidays and sick? This leaves me worried for my financial future with the cost of living crisis that as a permanent member of staff I could lose my job to technology but technology may serve a purpose in efficiency but doesn't make up for human empathy for people especially working in the SWF and anti-poverty sector.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unfortunately this has more of a negative effect when you reduce staff numbers , this results in more job responsibilities which in the long run increases stress on staff. The staff go off on sick leave which means using other agencies to fill the position temporary. This is not only with council but unfortunately with many many companies and all results in staff leaving then having to go through a costly recruitment/process. IT systems also break down regular causing a back log of work which means less efficient and poorer standards of service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Council bigwigs should take a pay reduction instead of over working and under paying the average council employee.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not a fan of loss of jobs - technology is good when it works but invariably it has flaws and costs a fortune to set up new systems - does it really give enough of a benefit/cost saving??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Depends on the services being cut doesn't it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce the number of janitors in schools. They sit around every day doing absolutely nothing. The one at my place of work, comes in late then goes for a shower, yes a shower, in council time. After that he does his home shopping on his pc, plays football with the kids and is never available to accept deliveries. His answer to a hole in the wall is to put duct tape over it, that's it fixed!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	All fine and well reducing numbers these numbers must come from higher management the council cannot afford to cut any further resources from the ground Covid has shown this where council has performed and continues to perform below required standard more so when using vulnerable people to make surplus finances up through Non Contributions charges despicable way to treat some of our most vulnerable in our communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Any contributions policy is subject to the financial assessment of affordability. Criteria will be set within an assessment framework to ensure people's needs are assessed consistently and fairly.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Many of your most vulnerable customers (elderly, physically and/or mentally disabled and those with communication issues will not be able to cope with increased use of technology or having to travel longer distances on low income to meet in-person (particularly now bus services are about to be cut again).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	So that means you will use less "front line" staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	A huge worry will be what will happen to these workers ? Will they be made redundant or is the plan to redeploy them to other areas within the council workforce. It is always much better to speak with staff than to rely on online interfaces (which often older people struggle to access)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	When technology like this gets chosen and staff counts are reduced we are led to a 'google customer service' scenario where people hide behind inboxes and its not possible to get coaching or guidance session with a staff member. Or worse as with iTrent, no training was provided whatsoever and the guides produced could have been made by school children based on the quality. You can fill a workshop with the best tools in the world, but if the people using them dont know what to do then the product will always be bad.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The reality is that the council will invariably choose badly when it comes to technology and reduce the staff regardless of whether or not that technology is in place. As well as this 'advanced' technology needs skilled staff to work with it and get the maximum out of it. The reality is that technical skills within the council are lacking. Recruitment should include a technical test that at the very minimum should include a validation that the individual is able to use MS office products at least. I spend significant portions of my time providing assistance to staff at all levels who should have better skills coming in the door.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	With regards to choosing technology. Procurement is a tricky process and staff without experience often handle work that is outside their skillset. Leading to a competition where the winner is not chosen by the best or most knowledgeable people. As well as this there should be an inclusion of preset questions on key topics like cyber security and data protection requirements. iTrent a is a key example of technology chosen by the wrong people. the interface is horrendous and the system is slow, clunky and unintuitive. As well as this a quick google search shows that the top results where users comment on the product are all negative.; ; When technology like this gets chosen and staff counts are reduced we are led to a 'google customer service' scenario where people hide behind inboxes and its not possible to get coaching or guidance session with a staff member. Or worse as with iTrent, no training was provided whatsoever and the guides produced could have been made by school children based on the quality. You can fill a workshop with the best tools in the world, but if the people using them dont know what to do then the product will always be bad.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Loosing staff will be hard as largest employer in area but mangement hopefully pruning not guys in front line	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unfortunate for the staff involved. It is likely that the result of outsourcing will show it to be the fantasy it always was. It may or may not increase quality of service, but it will almost certainly increase cost - otherwise the outsourcing provider will not be profitable and will not be in business any longer .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't feel that this will be beneficial to West Lothian nor to the staff members who will be loosing there jobs. I understand we need to save money, however we can't save money when putting more people on unemployment benefits	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not sure how many more staff we can effectively loose without impacting on service delivery, even with the introduction of new technology. A lot of functions are being devolved to the front line, but we don't increase the numbers of frontline workers to cope with increases and staff are at risk of burnout.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's totally unacceptable to impact 'customers'/taxpayers as we have not mismanaged the council and badly designed existing services. The impact must be borne by the Council's poor and considerably overpaid senior management. Cuts at the top are essential and present natural justice.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	So you mean redundancies which rarely lead to improvements and efficiencies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What about staff that would lose their jobs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers will only lead to more unemployment in the area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce the number of managers, not frontline staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is a terrible idea. Reducing staff numbers always causes a reduction in quality of service, overworks the remaining staff and results in more costs because of increased sickness levels (due to stress and health issues triggered/ worsened by stress).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Whenever there's staff cuts this always impacts the user, ie US!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Do not reduce staff numbers. Some people such as elderly and those who struggle to keep up with technology need that face to face contact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Service redesign and integration seems logical, but not at the cost of reducing the number of front -line operational staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council has already cut staff back to the bone through TYC. There are very few people left to deliver qualitative services. Employees are working long hours and sickness absence is on the increase due to stress and anxiety.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not everybody can access IT or use IT, therefore some customers will not receive your intended more efficient services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The team I work in is already fully online. So I would struggle to understand how further cuts can be made through technology. Our customers are also feeding back that they would prefer not to deal with us through self service and automation as much of the legislation we deal with is very technical and will vary from job to job so cannot easily be dealt with through tick boxes and online tools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	stop cost cutting with technology that fails to work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Have been involved in many cost reduction exercises within water industry and they never seem to work the way hoped. The wrong staff are always laid off ie those that work hard but do not kiss butt, and the systems invariably cost more than planned because they are not investigated fully by the people that actually need to use them... In all never saves money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Our sourcing will simply offer a poorer service; if you can outsource a job, save money and the contractor is making money, you're doing it wrong in the first place. Outsourcing is a false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If you are cutting staff, there will be nobody left to work on income generating opportunities. Everyone that is left will be focused on the day job. Those that are here at the moment already only have time to do what's necessary to deliver their core work. No-one has time to concentrate on anything innovative or developmental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing income generating opportunities and will develop ideas that are assessed as being feasible.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This appears to be stacking deckchairs on the Titanic. You don't say what the cost of doing this will be or the consequences you mention for your customers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would like to see the council review its staffing structure, pay awards, pensions, internal processes. Not sure losing staff on the frontline would be wise but ensuring managers and senior managers hold people to account using the job descriptions and putting in place performance management with people who are not performing or off sick a lot for minor issues or behaving in ways that are unprofessional.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Any further cuts to staff will most likely lead to more mistakes, and get longer to resolve, possibly putting many vulnerable people into debt, and mental health issues, which in turn affect all other agencies and services waiting times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation and redesign sounds positive but hearing that staff will be reduced is a worry, will they be moved to other areas or will they lose their jobs?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We can not afford to reduce the staff levels anymore than they are in fact to cover the day to day working we should be increasing the staffing in our service including wages to keep staff. Staffing levels are so low there is more work load pushed on others and you are lucky more people are not off due to stress.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Council staff are already stretched to the limit. 'Restructuring' usually means less people doing more work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Your best assets are your trained, experienced and helpful staff reducing their number is a big mistake, cutting staff numbers is not the way to save money its just an easy fix instead of tackling the problem properly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Management teams are stripped back enough in the sector I work in. To decrease staffing and finances could impact the quality of service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Corporate Procurement has already been redesigned as part of previous savings and is currently unable to cope with the workload due to reduced staffing levels. Further reductions would affect the council's compliance with Procurement Regulations	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unfortunately staff being made redundant seems to be going to happen. Reducing staff in certain areas will have an impact on our most in need residents, unfortunately. No matter how it is presented	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There needs to stop being cuts. There has been a consultation every year as far back as I remember and, as a result, the council has become completely dysfunctional. I'd suggest a boycott against these ridiculous cuts as services are failing completely.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff numbers have already been cut so much and staff are underpaid and undervalued	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Further detail is required to assess impact. Whilst cost reductions with external contracts may be appropriate, if this is associated with loss of services, this should be identified, articulated and presented for consideration.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Greater use of technology is okay when the technology actually works. In my 8 years of working with the council is has become increasingly apparent that the "cheaper is better" approach is becoming the norm. The systems have never been great but at least when I first started, they were somewhat user friendly. Now they are less so and have a lot more problems than not. I fail to see how systems that can't perform necessary functions that they are designed for leads to savings. Sure, off the bat, we save X amount of money but in the long term, customer and staff satisfaction are impacted by these systems and they lead to more problems which must cost the council in terms of public relations, staff sickness (because systems that don't work cause stress especially if you get hassle from customers due to this even though it's out with your control), and costs involved to fix a system that doesn't work or replace it entirely only a couple of years after putting them in place (Payment kiosks are a prime example here). If the council isn't prepared to invest in decent technology that works and is designed to last, then the savings are irrelevant.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If you do replace people with Texhnoology you will just have more squeeze on budgets such as benefits, use of support services, health services and housing as poverty kicks in. Would likely cost more to resolve than the saving.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff so therefore job losses because of more increased use in technology is very concerning as there is too much technology for everything everywhere now and customers still prefer being able to communicate to a person if need be.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing numbers in offices and relying on technology normally means 1-2 people covering the jobs of 5, again meaning that these harassed people can't fulfil the actual requirements to achieve satisfactory results.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think before you move onto new technologies you need to try and make the things work that you have previously implemented.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Prefer having a person to help me, rather than a computer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Prefer having a person to help me, rather than a computer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Prefer to speak to people whenever possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not everyone has access to technology and/or the Internet/wifi. How will this impact the older generation and those who are reliant on expensive 4G?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not sure this is for everyone as not everyone can use technology	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In addition, there has been limited impact so far of new technology other than to cause staff additional work. We seem to focus on the deadline and cost, rather than on what the technology really needs to do, so we end up with 'half baked' implementations that don't make the job easier or more efficient.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology won't fix problems it will simply shift them and make them more obvious. If we don't fix the micromanagement, the blame culture, the lack of staff autonomy we will simply add to staff workload and stress and continue to lose staff to better positions elsewhere.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Relying more on technology rather than real staff is very difficult for a whole range of people. So many elderly people are struggling to use online resources and still need real support from humans when dealing with council house issues, making payments, renewing bus passes etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	West lothian must continue to provide support for the most vulnerable members of society by providing access to all services for those who are not computer literate, don't have access to the Internet because of financial constraints. Don't become a Council that customers cannot speak to	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is enough discrimination and inequity already with regard to how clients within WLC are treated (example - council and HA tenants don't pay for rails installs but owner-occupiers do, the (very often incorrect) assumption being that owner-occupiers are able to afford to pay) without adding to this by 'elitifying' the access to services by making online access the only option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology is only useful if people are able to access it, otherwise it becomes discriminatory. Example - housing applications being 'online only'. I have had several clients who (for various reasons) are unable to access online, and they now face lengthy waits for assistance from housing support to enable them to complete the online application when they would have been able to complete a paper copy independently, and to quicker effect.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While it is unlikely this would be seriously considered by the council - my view is that you need to be very careful about 'digital by default' as a justification for reducing staff numbers. While it might show in the short term that transaction cost is lowered (fewer staff doing the work) what needs to be considered is the demand from the customer that will be placed on other services. Those most in need of support risk finding access the required service more difficult, especially those who have lack of access or expertise using digital services. It is likely that as more services become digital - if they are not properly designed (and to some extent, even if they are) more vulnerable users, particularly the ones more likely to be hit by the cost-of-living crisis the most will either drive more 'failure demand' in the systems as they put extra cost on other parts of the council services as they try to find work arounds to speak to someone who can help them, which means more demands on customer service lines or other services that end up dealing with the individual because the digital access is not working for them. There is a risk that the 'costs' of supporting an individual just get driven into other areas of the council's work in terms of capacity either because they lack digital expertise or do not have access to a sufficient level of digital technology - I have had direct experience of this ending up on several phone-calls in the last couple of months having to take vulnerable members of the public through step by step because they couldn't cope with the digital layout of wanting to pay through a council service. In the cases my work time ending up being 45 minutes on two occasions and 1 hour on another. So before undertaking above the council should risk assess how capacity elsewhere in the council could be negatively impacted as new costs are driven into the system because of a perceived saving because a part of the council's operation has moved to digital, and at the very least ensure that some of these other areas that pick up this displaced demand are not themselves affected by any future cuts. The council must give careful consideration to how customer facing staff in council could be upskilled to offer support to help vulnerable customers access the digital technology - for example getting adult education, the access to employment and advice shop staff to offer computer classes/support to help these vulnerable adults to develop the confidence and skills to access these services. Developing this, an opportunity could be taken to train up customer facing staff not affected by the planned restructure more widely in help customers access digital services where required. Another option is having a site page on the council's website, or a you tube channel that could have a series of interactive guides on council. What will save the council money is that all residents can access council digital services easily and allows them to meet their needs and get what they need out of the service - but there	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No new digital technology would fix this huge issue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do not think putting more money into technology will help, that's just spending money!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	That worries me , automated systems are not like speaking to a real person. Always takes way longer with automated questions etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduced staff numbers is the worst thing that can happen within a child's education. This will widen the attainment gap much further and will be detrimental to the young people within this council. Alongside this, employment opportunity for newly qualified teachers is already disgraceful, this will only worsen the problem.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernisation should not cost jobs. Staffing in schools should be a priority, to give children the support they need especially since covid resulting in the subsequent fall in academic achievement. It would be disastrous for future generations in West Lothian for education to be reduced in any way when it should be expanded and improved to support all children, whether this is in teachers, support staff or resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Education needs more teachers not less! Where are these cuts being made?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We need more adults on the ground in order to educate and survive or schools and our children's futures are going to crumble. Cutting budgets for education is the worst thing you could do for our children and staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The key factor in pupil development, support and improvement is working with qualified teachers and supportive adults. Pupils learn best when directed and supported by a trained, nurturing individual. This cannot be achieved through technology. In fact many pupils are "tired" of this approach due to online learning and lockdown. They lack motivation to complete these tasks and much prefer the social and human side of learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff losses and WLC being less responsive to our most vulnerable will be a sad result of this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff numbers should not be reduced. You should be increasing employment in West Lothian	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't think this idea would work if you cut staff as over the covid period the council have been struggling due to shortage of staff. If you cut back further I predict you will be spending more in the long run.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	With regards to other council staff in other services, they can only be reduced if the job role is not essential. West Lothian needs staff to allow for the provision of all essential services. In particular, staff who work on council houses (joiners, electrician, plumbers etc), refuse collection, recycling centers, social work and work with the elderly and vulnerable cannot be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think if budget savings are required to be made, it is important to ensure that essential services are maintained such as social work, housing and education without cuts impacting those most in need in our community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't agree with the reduction of staff numbers, this will result in people losing jobs or permanent contracts which affect careers and life choices	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The roads service has already been cut beyond the point where it can supply some of the core services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Available limited resources are used to support statutory requirements. Asset management principles are used to prioritise limited resources.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While these budget cuts are no doubt necessary, it is worrying that this will likely include job cuts to reduce staff numbers, at a time when families are already struggling with the cost of living crisis	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is imperative, therefore, that any unavoidable financial cuts are made in areas other than the initial, formal education of children in their first years of schooling. This will allow them to thrive much more readily, even in secondary schools experiencing true austerity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is already hard enough to speak to staff to deal with issues, I feel introducing even more 'technical' ways to reduce staff would be awful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Job loses at this time are a terrible idea. So many people already struggle with workload and customers struggle to get through to speaking to someone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The savings proposals have developed with a view to maximising efficiency and maintaining performance and customer service. Any staffing efficiencies will be delivered through non replacement of vacant posts where possible and otherwise through the implementation of the Council's organisational change policy. The Council operates a no redundancy practice.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Losing experienced staff and along with that the capability of getting help and advice is definitely not the way forward. What about your elderly residents or people with mental difficulties who need support and proper human contact to help them resolve an issue or get advice. I know how frustrating going through an automated system is as I would hope you do too, bringing that into the Council will just bring misery and frustration to all residents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The savings proposals have developed with a view to maximising efficiency and maintaining performance and customer service. Any staffing efficiencies will be delivered through non replacement of vacant posts where possible and otherwise through the implementation of the Council's organisational change policy. The Council operates a no redundancy practice.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There can be no more cuts to the waste department of the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The thought of good hard-working staff losing their job in this time fills me with dread, our team in building standards are running bare at times as it is but still managing a high standard of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The most vulnerable require these services to support them to live within their communities and reducing carers contact increased their social isolation, impacts their mental health and leads to a break down in care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff are struggling to keep up with demands for our services as some posts are currently not filled and staff cuts were made at the last budget saving exercise but work demands did not decrease, more was expected from staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think these suggestions are extremely concerning, reducing staff and the impact it will have on customers. I think the title service redesign and modernization is very telling to expect poor customer services and over stretched staff doing three jobs instead of one under the umbrella of consolidation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I am unsure as to what the detail of this would be, but I feel instinctively uneasy on reading this. I know difficult decisions are always required to find savings, but efficiency is a finite thing. Phrases like 'consolidating services, reducing staff numbers, ... an impact on customers' are concerning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	A down side of this means job loses which does not benefit West Lothian as a whol.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not supporting this. Less staff will mean less support at an increased cost to us, the people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Outsourcing is not the answer, all of these lean processes always look good on a spreadsheet but in reality it is never goes to plan.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Everything should be in-house.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Is West Lothian Council considering only providing those services that they "legally" have to provide? If they are, what service functions must the Council provide?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Savings of 1.2 million do not seem to balance out the long term impact of many people losing their jobs and/or services being reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	"redesign, integration and greater use of technology"- words used that very rarely result in "increase efficiency and effectiveness"	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	A reduction in staff will cause job loss. This cannot be a good thing. Redesign can be a great thing, but is it not possible to keep the same number of staff and increase efficiency to make up for the money that could have been saved through the staff cuts?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I know you have to make savings but recently we, the Adult Learning Team, have been decimated. I do not believe we should make any more cuts in the staffing levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I have already been through 2 service re-designs in my dept over the last few years. This has left the dept already working with the bare minimum amount of staff in my eyes to provide the service we do to the estate. Service will be greatly reduced if we are to cut our dept any further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If this is some way of suggesting council functions will be put out to tender, stop this immediately. There is no strong evidence to suggest this delivers value for the people the council represents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	With more reliance on WLC's services than ever befoe, reducing staff numbers would be detrimental to service provision. You cannot replace staff with technology in frontline services. People need to be heard! It is not always possible to use online services!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council has not recovered from the last set of 'efficiencies' where central support has been dramatically cut. This has had a devastating effect on service delivery. If there is a technology issue in school it can take weeks for it to be dealt with. Recently I got some ipads to use in my class that had been purchased almost 6 months ago, however had to be set up by IT before they could be used.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council can not cope with providing the services required at the moment so by reducing staff the council services will be even worse than they are at the moment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There are far too many support/admin roles in the council, i.e - Education/Social Work and Housing Services - Too many fingers in the same pie - better outcomes for customers and lots of efficiency savings could be had if the roles were all dispersed and frontline staff made accountable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Experience has demonstrated that the council can deliver an more effective and cost effective service through the centralisation of generic tasks with the retention of specialist provision within service. This model still allows the opportunity for staff to engage with council officers on a face to face basis at the most effective and convenient level.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Allot of costs are external that I am aware of that could save the council money if the work was completed by a staff member.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Some contracts that are extended where if a full time staff member was to work on making it more efficient then would reduce funding external and waste. Looking at contracts of employment and benefit / time of for health could save as the staff are off and this is being extended then taking time off for holidays when they return. Leaving a gap in areas of service where we are already understaffed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In a time of such austerity, we must surely focus on the fundamentals of education rather than the 'frills'.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You should do away with the services that don't apply that are not needed as much	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council places significant emphasis on effective internal and external integration and will continue to look for opportunities to integrate systems or processes to achieve efficiencies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We should be keeping workloads for west lothian council staff and eliminating the requirement for subcontractors and associated costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	External contracted services often end up costing WLC more than it is intended too safe. We need to reduce the support teams and provide more staff on the front-line services. e.g. reduce, HR teams, Finance teams, performance teams, transformational teams. Put the resource where needed most - in front of the customer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I feel that we have little enough staff to cope with never ending pressure in the workplace. Reducing numbers would be catastrophic!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is absolutely no detail in what is written above - generalisations. If you are going to keep directors of departments rather than make them redundant and keep low paid workers who do the work people most care about, great. But it is not clear what your plans are at all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Concerns about staff reduction	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff is not always the answer. Reducing the amount of management within services but valuing lower paid council staff that are working front line to make these policies happen. Reduce money through over priced contracts / peacose when items could be purchased locally and cheaper.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If this will not benefit customers why is it a good idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I disagree with reducing the staff numbers and relying on technology in a climate when people need these jobs, further to this there is a great percentage of the local community who will require face to face human contact and greatly benefit from this. I see the stress and upset suffered by the older generation in my family when attempting to navigate the increasing number of services that are now relying on technology. I think there has been a great loss in sense of community over the last decade at least and that having friendly compassionate faces within our local council and communication between the council and community would be greatly beneficial, funds invested in our schools and children and local events to bring people together is needed now more than ever.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services are at a bare minimum, how can you cut more , is that loss of more jobs for people? , why don't you reduce managers an there pay , stop giving out work to contracts when there are perfectly good employees within the council , also saves going back to fix jobs umpteen times after contractors.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hard to say if the impact on customers will be worth the redesigning without examples. Seems unlikely customers will be pleased with the changes as some areas are difficult enough already eg waiting times, communication, option of services and many services that are required have already been limited or removed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's bad enough as it is so this will only make it worse! Cut backs are not the answer, integration is not the answer the council are a laughing stock as it is! They need to work smarter and have a little common sense which is non existent! ; e.g Why is it when you stay on a busy/main road do the bin men think it's common sense and safe to empty a bin and put it back in the middle of the driveway? There's no customer care any longer it's as quick as get it done and onto the next one even if it's not done properly!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Stop reducing staff and cutting services. In a time when things a tough enough keep staff and improve services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using contracted out services may help, but reducing staff numbers and relying on systems will hinder those who can't use technology effectively for whatever reason.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Do not make staff redundant and then take them back as contractors, like you usually do. Wasting millions of tax payer money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I feel this would negatively affect the day to day lives of so many people who rely on the services as they currently are, if anything these services need to be increased not decreased....back to the way they were before co vid regulations came into force.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers always seems like the easiest option but services need eg front line staff when problems arise. ; Constant reliance on technology can have sure advantages,that is without doubt..... but too much reliance leads to frustration to the people who may need council services which in turn leads to raised complaints and dissatisfaction. Therefore balance is needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services have been minimised enough. We pay council tax which is ever increasing and services constantly being hacked.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Won't this increase unemployment?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think a lot of frontline Services are on their knees right now. The impact of Covid and the extra pressures this put on staff, in their family life as well as their working lives, has been massive. This is already having a knock-on effect to customers and most definitely not in a positive way. Staff members are often under immense stress and the impact of this has been staff leaving or experiencing mental health issues and needing to take time off to recover. Once again, Customers have been negatively impacted by this. Staff members are trying their very best to provide the same level of service, to the same high standard as they always have BUT understaffing and the pressures of living in the current climate and trying to support and assist customers through this is already taking its toll.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	For staff members to be losing their jobs on the back of all they have already been through seems cruel to say the least. i appreciate that money savings need to be made but in all honesty I feel very aggrieved that after giving so much of themselves over the past few years staff deserve more not less. We are living in a time of great financial difficulty and people are struggling as it is. To consider job cuts when staff are already burning out is just horrendous. We need our jobs more than ever!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As is noted at the beginning of this consultation, the council has made cuts for the past 15 years. There is nothing left to cut that is not essential. ; Stating from the outset that 'There will be an impact on customers' demonstrates that the cuts are not aimed at superfluous/unnecessary systems, but rather integral parts of the council's key functions. ; What is left of the local government when so much is stripped away?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Stop paying contractors stupid amounts of money for crap services which you'll only roll back after a year so making it utterly useless and expensive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would be concerned about reducing staff numbers for various reasons. A lack of human contact can be very off putting to service users who, following COVID and in the face of the current financial crisis, may be experiencing isolation and depression on a scale not seen before, adding pressure Council services and NHS Services. In the current climate, the obvious benefits of human contact and interaction should be highly valued if the Council wants to value Customer satisfaction, well-being and employment opportunities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	"The council is committed to meeting the needs of local people and high performance across all areas of service delivery." I feel that if this is truly the case the council should reconsider this proposal. People are already struggling financially throughout West Lothian and cuts to jobs and vital services will only put people further into poverty.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Don't reduce staff as it is hard enough to get a job. Also it's a nightmare with phone wait times and getting jobs done with the staff you have	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Concern around the lack of jobs already available without cutting this further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Why bother? by the time everyone has agreed on what to spend the money on the technology will be obsolete, and it will mean making people redundant creating a further financial burden on both local and national government with benefit payments.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think it is complete unacceptable that people will be losing their jobs or that there will be 'reducing staff numbers' during this cost of living crisis and with council workers who largely worked all the way through the pandemic	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Replacing people with technology, and reducing staff numbers, works well in theory, but in reality, when something goes wrong, you need a person. But if that person is now undertaking multiple roles and responsibilities... It's not good is it. The impact of these cuts on the future means we are digging a hole it is going to be extremely hard for anyone to get out of over the next decade (at least).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Appreciate there is a need to make savings however there have been significant changes to structures in my service already and my team are currently short-staffed as it is. My feeling is that further changes/reductions will lead to poorer performance and too much work for staff to cope with. From previous experience the workload does not reduce as staff numbers do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We have already made budget cuts using technology and reached the end of that road a long time ago. It's time to admit that more technology will not replace staff. Technology doesn't lift bins or assess people's needs. Most services are below critical mass in terms of staff numbers and can't cover holidays and sickness.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Although this is positive for the business, reducing staff numbers is concerning as it puts our jobs at risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Job losses are unacceptable- especially as we go through this cost of living crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff reductions are a short sighted approach. Council functions then have to be externalised ultimately costing the Council more money.; I am aware through acquaintances that the Council departments are already stretched to breaking point. This is affecting the health & wellbeing of your staff and is not sustainable. As a major local employer it is your responsibility to look after your staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Job loss - will this put more pressure on staff if reduction means less staff but more work pressure on remaining staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff cuts are not the answer. Better communication and integration with other services. Better management and ways of working	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Need to be care here not everyone has access to technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hate technology, better to have people to talk to	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You can't keep cutting staff numbers. All the technology in the world still can't replace a competent and effective person when it comes to certain areas. You also alienate / limit the available contact of those in society who most need your support where they don't have and / or are unable to use modern technology.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology is great when it works- however more often than not Internet usage hinders work being done when there is a blip.; People are already facing cost of living crisis and you are talking about cutting jobs.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sorry, but this is unintelligible. There are a whole load of words here that actually tell you nothing. The thing that concerns me is staff losing their jobs and the phrase 'impact on customers'. It's all very well having a whole load of fancy new technology, but we are facing an energy crisis. How is all this new technology going to work, if we cannot get the electricity?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology does not allow those with no previous skills to access technology or with an elderly population. Greater information about how this technology will be used is needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In addition, not all customers have the ability to use technology confidentially and it may not be accepted well by those in this category.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do not think this is clear enough. What is meant by use of technology. Examples of how this is going to be done should be provided!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Comment is in the form of a question
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Customer service should be at the heart of service delivery. Do not want to have to speak to several people to get a problem resolved.; Merging systems is all very well is extremely difficult and there will be compromises- is the council prepared for this?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This will not provide a saving in the long run, changing systems will only lead to slower services, now is not the time for these changes	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Would rather talk to someone, preferably face-to-face	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Replacing people with technology is not effective. Reducing jobs does not support the economy or the service provided.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We have the highest number of pensioners in Scotland and you want to take away the ability to talk to someone and put everything online!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This does not work in childcare or education services, school staffing is already difficult with in most schools without having cuts to teachers, support workers, canteen, cleaning, office and technical staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The wait to speak to someone in the council is long as it is, if these measures are put in place it would take a even longer to speak to someone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I suspect this means removing staff and putting automated telephone answering machines in instead. There is nothing more annoying than these gadgets which rarely produce the answer you want. Often telling you to use your smartphone with a QR code which forgets that not everyone has a smartphone or some, being older, do not use them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would prefer we achieved service improvements for the same cost rather than service degradation of reduced cost, and put up the council tax accordingly.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Increases in Council Tax would help reduce the amount of cuts necessary and increase the amount of funding the council has to spend on local services.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	using external contracts usually more expensive and service normally reduces why does this save money?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How and who will provide for the restructuring of services? What investment/spend will be required to realise the targeted £1.2m saving and over what period?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council aims to make net savings of £1.2m over a period of three years through consolidating services, reducing staff numbers and the number of systems we use within internal business and financial support functions.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I feel reducing staff numbers and expertise in planning is counter-productive. Planning facilitates development which contributes to the wider economy. Providing warm, secure, affordable and adaptable homes reduces the demand on front-line services such as homelessness, mental health support, help to increase employability etc.. A good home is a basic human need that enables our children, businesses and people in general to operate and flourish. Strong, defensible planning policies can extract land value uplift for the greater public good. Weak policies may lead to challenges and costs awarded against the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Outsourcing can be a problem, the quality of the services could be below standard, don't make saving money a priority over quality.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Concern that streamlining services (and reducing staffing) will lead to increased response time, backlogs and delays in processing information. Increased pressure on services actually leads to fall in productivity and effectiveness rather than smoother services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The office already appears to be modernised and there would be concern about further modernisation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	why not stop paying for your travel by car and your wages cut stop asking for payments for getting your offices fitted with bathroom suits and outhouse things like stamps	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	New methods of working has resulted in staff business travel having reduced significantly. The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cuts to services now will have a detrimental effect to those in social care, especially after the introduction of fees towards services people are already struggling. After the covid pandemic people have been struggling physically and mentally and need these services to sustain their health and wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Any contributions policy is subject to the financial assessment of affordability. Criteria will be set within an assessment framework to ensure people's needs are assessed consistently and fairly.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's not clear from your description what service is affected, who the customers are or what impact the cuts would have on them. This doesn't feel like a meaningful consultation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consolidation means moving everything to Livingston in WLC terms. Unless you have different departments located in different towns this shows a clear bias & failure to provide for those towns. Staff can WFH/hybrid where possible. Linlithgow is one town in particular that is nothing more than a cash cow, not all residents are wealthy Edinburgh commuters.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council provides frontline services to customers throughout West Lothian. There are no plans to consolidate the location of all services to Livingston.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This section on Service redesign, integration and modernisation is mere word salad with no substance being provided. I am surprised that the scope for savings of internal Council functions is as low as only £1.2 million, is that really the best figure that can be achieved?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using external services always has an impact on services and I don't believe this will achieve cost reductions but in a lot of cases, it is the opposite.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ultimately, if you lose expertise within your organization held by competent staff then your service offering will die & typically your customer satisfaction gets worse. You may already know this but I felt it needs saying. This is what happens to private companies - fail to invest and very soon you don't exist. Your role is different but the long term impact is the same.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will continue to support employee development and succession planning to support services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I prefer a person to speak to when I need issues resolved and find automated help lines very frustrating and time consuming.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Concerns as to how much we can redesign and consolidate already stretched services and still deliver on quality.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This sounds like it would reduce vital services which is very worrying as departments are already overstretched and services are already suffering.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This doesn't read particularly well, it's full of buzzwords and it's unclear. The impact on customers caused by 'redesigning services, integration of teams and further use of technology' will also be mitigated by that? How?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cutting down at such time its cruel	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers is really worrying	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We cannot afford to reduce some of the services that you deliver.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would be against any staff reductions and any loss of services that we currently get.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I wouldn't be happy with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do not agree with these plans. Staff numbers are crucial.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Council services are way below standard as it is, this will only make it worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Should never be at the cost of losing valuable council staff. Prefer humans to computer service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I Note that the survey needs to be completed in one go.; This is not acceptable as most people cannot find the time to do so without a break to do other things	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Would be concerned about over centralisation of services as people in population centres like Armadale and Blackridge are having access to public transport to Livingston withdrawn	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	More information is needed about the impact on customers with the reduction in services despite there being no reduction in council tax fees. Will these services be efficient if there is issues with technology? If technology is down will there be an actual human there to contact or will these services just be "unavailable".	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	More people on the ground are needed rather than continued expensive IT projects that end up delivering nothing of human value	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Use of technology and reducing staff numbers: The concept of removing the personal interface between council staff and the public is counter to a democratic process. In addition, for many it can curtail their participation in the community if they cannot access the internet, eg the severely disabled who might have lost refined hand movements) or those without the financial resources to be connected. Additionally, such a move would increase the reliance on algorithms, which have been shown to nudge the public in a particular direction, rather than openly seeking a broad range of opinion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO HAVE THE OPTION TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE DIRECT NOT ALL ONLINE	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think without the technology being effective and up to a good standard we would not be able to reduce staff, we do not have enough staff at the moment anyway. there is a lot of council run buildings that are not making profit or not close to it, with the buildings that are making profit i feel they should have more focus on increasing that profit by adding in more to the building and start to fase out the buildings that are not making profit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not happy about the reduction in council staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	For there to be pope integration then equal funding with Health and Social Care is required. Council must match funding and not prioritise cuts over provision of services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Scottish Government funding will be insufficient to match the cost of provisioning council services, and therefore it is necessary for the council to identify ways it can save money through modernisation and new ways of working.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers would be a deplorable action at a time when so many children, young people and adults are facing significant mental health and emotional issues. Furthermore, reducing staff numbers during a cost of living crisis is quite frankly immoral.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers is rarely a benefit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff morale will decline, underplayed and over worked. This will increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	WE CANT LOSE ANYMORE STAFF WE DONT HAVE ENOUGH AS IT IS .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	All that says to me is that we will rejig jobs in a cheery way, putting people out of workand leaving the public without adequate help.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Most council services are already running on the bare bones, I doubt many services will be able to continue with further cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reaching some council services can already be difficult,too many chiefs and NOT enough Indians !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It sounds as though jobs will be cut and services lessened. Not good enough.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	To deliver efficiencies via technology requires suitable resource capacity within IT Services. As an enabler it is important the service is not made any leaner via reduction in staff numbers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Some services require face-to-face support and losing this kind of support directly impacts on the work that can be undertaken and the families supported.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	People my age, need to be able to speak to a person, not a robot and some my age struggle with technology. I would be interested to know what impact what is proposed will have on the people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How can any constructive comment be made when the "description" of the proposed changes includes the words "there will be an impact on customers..." with no meaningful explanation of what that impact will be? Does modernising systems and utilising technology mean customers will need to engage with the automated 'please press number whatever...' and enter into a circular, robotic system with no hope of addressing/resolving their query? If so, then no, it's not an acceptable proposal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Heavy investment would be required in technology. The current technology used throughout WLC isn't fit for purpose.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Often redesign and increase in technology doesn't save money. Money is spent on technology that doesn't work properly and even more work is placed on staff. An example of this would be itrent. It was supposed to replace TMS but we are now using both. My manager spends more time now sorting rotas/ work patterns and annual leave than ever before.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Another reduction in staff due to technology that won't provide a quality service 7	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I understand that technology is needed and will help reduce some costs but I don't think it should be done if it means people losing their jobs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No trust in your appropriation of these new technologies. You go for the cheapest options that usually have the worst service and cost more in the long run due to them being built on aging platforms. Do better testing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	its hard enough to get in touch with the council as it is - i tried to get a new bin a while ago and it took ages.; If they are going to reduce services, really old folk are going to struggle if it goes automated. If only on line that will be a problem.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If things can be automated for staff to use then that's great but if its to replace staff then I'm not convinced - typically technology isn't a human and can misinterpret questions thus requiring the council to then spend on outsourcing a helpdesk which would ultimately cost them more than the staff they have let go of. Or only a few staff are retained who then take on the jobs of 2 or 3 staff that have left causing burnout (sick leave) or resignations. I still prefer to go to a human on the checkout in supermarkets because there's always an issue with the self-service checkouts, that only 1 staff member are manning, and it ends up taking longer and is frustrating!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While acknowledging this is a monumental task of which I have no experience of delivering. I do have experience of working with people who are vulnerable, and isolated. It is my opinion that humans do not do well the more they are isolated and cut off from the community and the services provided in it. Limiting face to face time for everyone because money needs to be saved will reduce, reduce, reduce which I see as isolating more humans, resulting in more costs in the long run.; I don't have a solution and sympathise with the decision makers but suggest that by walking in the shoes of West Lothian's most vulnerable might give them some insight to the losses the cuts actually make.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In relation to this I would be concerned that each year the council has to make cutbacks whilst at the same time there are increasing demands on services. Technology is increasingly being used throughout society which has a detrimental impact on customers who do not wish to use technology or do not have ready access to technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I am totally against further impact on customers (Tax Payers) It means that we will be getting less for more tax money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Don't agree with external contracts smoke and mirrors they always cost more. Why reduce staff, that will be more damaging to West Lothian. Surely you should be trying to save jobs help with unemployment not cause more !! No one wants more systems that can't answer questions it's difficult enough to get through the switchboard or pay online.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	; I appreciate that reducing staff numbers saves money but often such short term 'gains' for the organisation are lost when people with expertise and experience leave (these can't be replaced by a system).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	After Covid it is vital that we keep as many staff as possible to ensure that we can recover from Covid and children are provided with the highest quality teaching. Reducing staff would be detrimental to our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers will increase unemployment in West Lothian, forcing more people into poverty. Job cuts should be the last possible option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff means jobs are lost	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is hard to imagine the impact for customers would not be notable.; Also, due consideration to employees working conditions must be made - there will be an impact by consolidating services (never mind the colleagues that will lose jobs).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We are already stretched in terms of staffing in schools, cutting this even further would be catastrophic!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	To make any more staffing cuts in schools would be severely detrimental to both staff and pupils. Violence and aggression is at the highest it has ever been, there are very little consequences in place due to no one being available to deal with these behaviours, and children are slipping through the net due to lack of outside agency involvement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I feel redundancies of any public facing staff would have a negative impact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't think reducing staff numbers is the way forward. I agree that consolidating some services would work but not at the expense of people losing their jobs and the risk of providing a poor service.; Technology is good when it works but having a person to talk too readily when as a member of the community is much better.; West Lothian Council is the biggest employer in West Lothian. It needs more than ever to be investing in it's workforce.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not all members of the community are comfortable using technology, can't afford it, can't access it don't know how to use it for example the elderly.; People prefer to deal with humans reducing staff numbers.??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This will stretch services considerably, causing unnecessary stress and ill health on remaining staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consolidating services may be confusing for customers,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe reducing staff numbers is a big mistake. Will you park the children in front of a television? I am all for moving with modern technology but it never must replace personal interaction. I would rather be in favour of employing more staff and paying them well. I would also take a very close look where money is squandered and believe me it is not the children and schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We have ITrent that is now creates more work for office staff in schools as so many staff have been cut from HR (admin staff are doing more and more). We have mail-boxes for HR that does not work for quick response of continuity and no consultation to remain hybrid working for the end user in terms of efficiency and effectiveness	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff reductions should not be an option. Instead those who may be made redundant should be retrained in another area as a priority	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers should be last resort and management structure should be considered first. Integration is all well and good if the integrated services are familiar with each other's policies and methods of working. Integration fails if there is ignorance of each department.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	would welcome using technology to improve efficiency of services. Surely services are cheaper and better in house so you are not paying the profits for external services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing face to face contact will impact older generation and people who has dyslexia or struggle with reading/ writing. A lot of people struggle with anxiety and depression and need prompting to access service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology can't yet replace customer care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce technology. Your staff are slaves to a computer all day every day. Get them out doing the work there employed for, not a slave to box ticking and endless bloody emails.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No, as the service is not efficient, breaks then there is no one to fix it or rectify the impact its caused cause no one can find the data that caused the issue in the first place, or when someone is trying to rectify their council tax or rent online by setting up or making payments this sometimes isn't found till you find bank statements. This service doesn't work and isn't accessible to people, especially people with learning or accessibility needs. People need a face or voice to speak to that can offer you the support you need more effectively.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Are you capable of technology and service integration or is this being outsourced to consulting organisations at consulting rates. Have you completed a full cost benefit analysis including the one off costs of reducing staff numbers. How does this improve services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The increased use of technology does concern me for people who do not have the capability or access to IT. Loss of jobs is always something that is concerning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We need to keep in mind there is still a section of our customers who don't use computers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not all are literate in the use of technologies, ensuring equity of access to support etc is essential.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Higher reliance on technology creates further barriers to access. How can those without technology or digital literacy access support? This creates discrimination issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Like everything else in this world computers are taking over , but when they crash its people you need , cutbacks will always mean failures.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology rarely seems to lead to efficiencies and reductions in staff so estimates are likely to be off.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In my experience, money is often better spent on people rather than technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hard to see how techngy solutions can be further utilised if the IT support cohort is subject to the staff reductions also indicated in this proposal. IT systems need continuous maintenance and are not an invest and forget option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not everyone is good with or has access to technology	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	technology doesn't always work and people like dealing with people- especially older people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While the increased use of technologies in some areas can be more efficient it is not always and there does not seem to be a back up of speaking to a real person if your issue cannot be resolved appropriately.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	My worry with this is that it will become harder to contact the council by phone. This is important to elderly people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You can't keep pushing technology on people and spending money on doing so. A lot of people can't use technology or want to do so. The funding that has went into digital services over the years for a lot of people to refuse to use it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff is never good and technology is taking over too much people need jobs and money to live even more so in this cost of living crisis its very sad times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	From a customer perspective I feel reducing staffing and increasing use if automation/ technology will impact negatively on customer experience.. very rarely does 'frequently asked Q' section or auto message help!! People, particularly those most vulnerable do need ease of access to services and crucially speak to someone without delay or confusing functions/options before getting through! ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Need to take into consideration people who do not have the means or experience to use technology	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Most people prefer to connect to other people and there are many vulnerable people who can not use technology. Replacing staff with technology so unemployment which drains resources as well as causing mental ill health which comes with financial as well as human cost. This proposal is false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Key services to the most vulnerable must not be impacted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	A reduction in staff numbers for frontline services could be damaging to already vulnerable communities/ people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reading between the lines this suggests the savings will be met by finding loopholes in the legal structure and the customer will now deal with a faceless council, "there will be impact on customers" is never good, especially when they are already impacted due to previous cuts - let's not sugar coat the term 'saving' it's cuts in services that are legally required by statutory requirement	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council is already a nightmare to get through to so reducing numbers will make it worse, you also have a long waiting time for things to get done so that time will be impacted too.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is successful at meeting its legislated timescales for its duties. Despite this, demand can be higher at certain times of the day, or days of the week which may result in longer queue times when contacting a service.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Libraries must not be closed or offer reduced times	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council has a legislative requirement to provide library facilities and will review the most effective means of delivering this service, taking account of demand and opportunities to access activities which currently take place in libraries from other community facilities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Waiting times are ridiculous! We are always told it's your workload! We all have workloads!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is successful at meeting its legislated timescales for its duties. Despite this demand can be higher at certain times of the day, or days of the week which may result in longer queue times when contacting a service.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	there are already lack of services and customer services within all sites visited and reducing staff numbers would mean even more people losing their jobs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	i DON' T LIKE ANY OF THESE AND	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ultimately the impact on customers should be positive otherwise you are doing it all wrong.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Difficult to re-design a number of services that have already gone through this type of process. Whilst modernisation is key to ensuring continuous improvement etc. there is a fine line to ensure that support services are able to provide the services required, without completely transferring onto customers (e.g. links to lots of information that may be difficult to understand). ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Outsourcing services to private providers is never the answer, it only dilutes the service to below-minimum viability.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This will have an impact on customers, longer waiting times and although it is always meant to show more effect systems, invariable it usually means more work for remaining staff when numbers are reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff is the problem, there is no one to do the jobs that is needing done, causing more issues in the long run. People are already doing more than one job at a time which effects job performance and health. Hence why things are breaking down.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Why change a service that works	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	In the current climate, jobs shouldn't be reduced. Bring in those with knowledge to role out the new services which I hope, are better tailored and integrated throughout the council	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How can you cut anymore	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The budget gap the council is facing is caused by increasing costs and a rising population combined with insufficient levels of government grant funding. This means that difficult decisions will require to be taken over the next five years about local services.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe that cutting back on staff only transfers the workload to others.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council is struggling already, why lessen the amount of staff even further?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The budget gap the council is facing is caused by increasing costs and a rising population combined with insufficient levels of government grant funding. This means that difficult decisions will require to be taken over the next five years about local services.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	All sounds good on paper but this will only result in a poorer service and cause frustrations and anger when trying to reach someone to resolve and report issues. There are many examples where this has been the case with a large number of other businesses. Once again it will be the front line staff who will have to carry the burden because of a poorer service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What actually does this mean? No real indication of actual examples of how this modernisation would work in practice. What services will be cut? Which employees will have their hours cut? ; ; It's just all jargon. ; ; The only comment I can make based on the above is that the council needs to remember we have a high proportion of residents who are elderly, or on a low income. Both groups struggle to access technology so you need to factor this into any decisions you make..	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is going nowhere, especially when is known that people who are in problem are disabled, pension age or simply not working and can not afford smartphone or WiFi Internet connection.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	While modernization has to happen to keep up to date, there is still very much a need to provide front line services. Not doing so goes against making services inclusive to all. Many people still can't or won't engage with technology and their needs are equally as valid as anyone's.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is nice to have some human interaction and some empathy and help most of the time even a multimedia customer service would not be able to help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No prefer to speak to somebody	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology doesn't work want to speak to a human to answer questions not possible on an automated system	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would rather have a person to speak to	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I strongly disagree with a model of reducing costs by reducing staff numbers. There can only be so much that technology can do, and while efficiencies in technology and systems should be sought, the Council will only perform as well as the people who staff it. A saving by reducing staff numbers will surely lead to increased pressures on remaining staff, and we know that increased stress leads to increased staff absences, which then increases costs with agency staff and decreases council productivity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As a Councillor, most of the cases I deal with are linked to the fact that residents have been unable to contact the appropriate Officer or department, so I would not support any further reduction of ways that the public can contact WLC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is not reducing the number of ways a customer can contact us. Customers will still be able to contact us by phone, online, or in person. The change is simply that we will maximise the opportunities to deliver efficiencies in processes through automation, thus reducing the requirement for face to face engagement.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The use of contractors when u have your own gas engineers ie heating upgrades	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cannot comment without more detail being available. Agree to streamlining if jobs are duplicated.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The description provides no detail in respect of which services would be affected and it is therefore difficult to comment when the impact has not been explained.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think it depends on the services that are scheduled to be redesigned to make comment on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council places significant emphasis on effective internal and external integration and will continue to look for opportunities to integrate systems or processes to achieve efficiencies.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	For staff not to be using TMS when hybrid workers would allow more flexibility and be able to meet the needs of the service users better.; TMS is not a true reflection of our working week. For example: We have to take our lunch between 12:00-14:00. This is the core part of our day and often we are out on visits, we often have lunch later on after visits. If we clocked in and clocked out when we start/finish and had flexibility when we had to have a break, also I have families that sometimes require evening work. (Routines/bedtime support) on tms we are only able to work until 7. If there were more flexibility service users would get a better service.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not all technology is good so we need to know what is being proposed.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What about older generations who do not have access/choose not to access technology? What support will they have in place? Will the staff lose their jobs or will they be redirected into other roles?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The respondent provided a series of questions rather than comments on the proposals
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	However, there is no mention of which support services are being targeted or when staff will be made aware of the detail. It is therefore very difficult to properly comment on such a high-level proposal, which is extremely disappointing and shows we have not moved on from previous 'consultations'.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Why don't you cut the Executive wages rather than getting rid of likely lower paid staff!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Allow those nearing retirement age to take early retirement without penalty, or ask for voluntary redundancies. Reduce the number of promoted staff being paid large salaries for doing not a lot.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is hard to give an informed comment when you do not clarify the exact impact and what services will be cut.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Remove the 7.5% shift allowance for road workers and also put more work out to contractors.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There are also very limited details here to make an informed response. What technology, where and how will do we expect it make a cost saving, how many staff, what services etc. etc.? This feels like another consultation designed to tell people nothing to somewhat water down responses.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The comment raises questions rather than responding to the question
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How does cutting jobs provide a better service?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What is meant by reviewing the small number of externally contracted services? Does this mean bringing these services back in house or sub contracting more services out externally? Having worked for an employer who decided to outsource work it was obvious the cost savings were not as expected, the service deteriorated and the work was taken back in house.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's all very well and good to put a few stats down with some complex sentences the average person won't bother to read and others not understand. However where will the 1.2 million in savings go? Into worth while causes like ensuring no elderly or child dies this winter from the cold? The normal working class don't care about where the cuts come we care the money isn't redirected to help the ones who desperately need it.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How will this affect Housing, Customer and Building Services. What particular external contracted services will be affected?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This proposal is only covers the modernisation and approach of internal services
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	With reduced staffing levels, this will lead to longer waiting times to pay rent, Council Tax and more.; Staff are still working from home still.; West Lothian internet system is not stable enough as it drop connection and it also depends on the Staff's personal internet supplier to be good	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	So cut staff impact on customers, which staff would be affected, how much of an impact to customers?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is already difficult to get in touch with departments and staff. Reducing staff would not be beneficial to the council to be able to run its services. Better phone system in place and appropriate response time and supporting staff to support the public would be better.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	..	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think more specifics of how this would be done (e.g exactly which areas would be impacted) is needed.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't know what "there will be an impact on customers" means in terms of day to day users of Council services. There needs to be more detail made available before I can comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't feel I have enough knowledge on this area to offer an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	,	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do not have enough information regarding these functions to provide a comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	...	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It would not be right to offer feedback without a sound understanding of the services this relates to.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hard to comment on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	no idea what this is?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What does this mean?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	NONE	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Na	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	dont know enough to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What do you want us to say here ? You waste money left right and centre now you want cut back	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would need further information on what west lothian council are actually planning and where service and staffing cuts would actually be before I could comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Without detailed information I don't see how I can comment on this or what you are expecting/wanting from comments.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No view on this proposal.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What services will be reduced? How can I say I support a reduction in services without knowing which services these might be?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I've read what information is available and I feel I need more information before I can give my trie opinion. * It needs to be worded in a way the majority of people would understand.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not enough information is given on topics to give full opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Nothing - no information to relate to.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Difficult to comment as vague on detail.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	More detail on redesign would be required to make informed decision.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	nothing, no information to relate to.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I've read what information is available I feel I need more Information before I can give my true opinion. It ned to be worded in a way the majority of people would understand.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I mean do you actually care what anyone thinks because the wording is not clear or easy to understand for this with no background in this. Like how can we comment if you are stating what services you will be consolidating and what would the impact be to customer? You can try and minimise all you want but without stating what it is how can we be expect to give a response. Clearly haven't learnt that people appreciate actual transparency.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Wish you would use plain english as this is confusing to read, you dont actually say were your cutting jobs etc from.ag	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is vague and impossible to pass comment on. Surely the level of support for this move depends entirely on the need for the services you propose to reduce?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If services are more efficient then why would it impact services?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What is the impact exactly?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No idea what this means as you have not actually said what you will do. Significant amount of jargon. Plain English required.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This information is too advanced for the average person to understand.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Difficult to comment as the description does not provide sufficient detail. As an IT professional I understand the benefit of system efficiencies and how they can be made and how they fail but without detail I question the purpose of the question.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's difficult to give a view when there's little specific detail about what the impact will be to customers.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You haven't said what specific things would change so I cannot comment in how it would impact me or my community.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I'm not really sure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Difficult to comment when it's not clear which services will be affected and the impact on these services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	On a superficial basis these sound like positive plans but no real detail is being provided on approach, actual outcomes or how the measures will be assessed as successful	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Surely the majority of savings will result in staff reductions to deliver the actual saving.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You are suggesting that more efficiencies could be gained from amalgamation of financial/legal/business functions/buildings etc. This is to suggest your staff could be more productive? Yet it is more likely you have some 'dead wood' that you need to move out of your business to make it more efficient including some ineffective highly paid individuals who are no longer value for money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Good. I am sure though that you could further to cut out waste and over administration. Sad as it is, greater reduction in headcount and duplication is needed. These figures feel modest in terms of a target	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This will only work if individual council workers are given more autonomy to make their own decisions. If not, processes will just slow down and become less efficient.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How are you going to guarantee a decent service if your consolidating jobs across departments. At present services are stretched and sometimes poor. Surely this will only add to the problem.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think reducing staff at a service delivery level e.g. face to face or call centre workers will cause more issues than it would do good. Getting rid of essential personnel that answer questions and support with services will cause confusion and error to the consumer.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds sensible however headcount reductions should only drive prudent severance packages and funding for staff retraining will be needed.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I agree with the the restructuring, bringing everything together with more efficiency. As long as we don't lose the customer care and support that West Lothian Council is known and loved for.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers where staff are already under pressure will not save money in the long run. You will only end up making people sick with stress related illnesses and have to pay increased sick pay. Then the jobs won't get done at all so you'll be paying money and nothing will be done. Lacks forward thinking!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers is great in some areas but realistically others are crying out for staff.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Every organisation needs to evolve, public facing roles should be protected where possible.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think the council are already extremely stretched and therefore would be concerned with a further reduction on already minimal staff	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Worry about the impact on jobs	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The estimated saving above of £1.2 million is substantial. I would only be able to make a valid comment once I understood how those savings would be broken down and how it would impact the current level of service.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Very vague description of what is happening, Im not sure what comments I can make. Of course saving need made and technology can help in some instances. Not sure if Externally contracted service ever save money in the long run and the quality of service is never the same. The changes need to be done properly Ive seen so many times great big Ideas and then the implementation of them causes more disruption. Id need more information before I could comment constructively on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Unable to comment due to lack of detail

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	if we knew what the redesign is we could comment but as we dont know what the redesign is i cant comment.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	difficult to provide specific feedback without knowing the actual detail around the proposed plans.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not enough detail to make constructive comments. Experience to date have been ineffective systems for parts of the council that don't work standard hours Mon to Fri and insufficient consultation with those services to ensure the support and do not hinder delivery.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Do away with the big salaries for pen pushers and give it to the needy and ones who work	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	WLC is becoming more and more distanced from its customers. It is already difficult to contact council staff and get to speak to someone who is able to deal with your query. This is even worse if you are someone with disabilities who finds the use of technology and being stuck on the phone for ages etc too difficult and don't have anyone to support you. People who most need help are at risk of becoming more and more vulnerable with the current proposals.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduing staff numbers also jumps out here - many service areas are running short of their full compliment of FTE and are struggling to ensure current service is provided well. Understand that ultimately head count is the major spend within the organisation, however some teams could provide additional benefit with more staff.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If services can be streamlined and efficiencies can be made with people losing their jobs that would be a starting point.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Councils could do with total revamp getting rid of the fat cats who squander resources and take massive salaries. ; Large areas/ sections could be done away with as they waste money.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We are struggling as it is with the number of staff we have within schools, for example teachers complete admin tasks such as photocopying. In addition to this PSW's are at a low number in classes meaning some students are not able to access additional support. Cutting numbers further will put even more pressure on teachers and existing resources.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	you need people to run the services and make sure they work what about the elderly who do not use tecnology at all how will you make sure they are able to reach and find the help they need	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Do not understand how reducing staffing levels will lead to more efficiency and effectiveness with front line services, staffing numbers are already stretched to over capacity at the moment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There has been so much of this done already with staff numbers being reduced. Staff in many areas of the council already have overwhelming and at times impossible workloads. My concern would be that this is further worsened.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Would encourage reducing staff numbers to be as few as possible but maybe look at hiring freeze for non-critical roles.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This will inevitably mean job losses	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is difficult to comment on without details of what this would look like. Reducing staff numbers is obviously concerning for those working in the local council so the more that can be done through other efficiencies, the better.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think there is only so much more that can be cut. Reduce the number of managers	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The majority of Local Council's I have worked alongside certainly have luxurious numbers of staff at all levels compared with those in the small to medium sized companies in the Private Sector. Salary and benefits of Public Sector are far higher than those in the small/medium private sector - and you certainly achieve more value for your money when using external contracted services.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't believe that the council using outside services to reduce costs works.. I have seen it happen with many services and it's a shambles as there is not the same commitment from that service and the quality of service is poor and it has an impact on everything else . I believe less of a formal management structure with so many people to doing one job will help.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Only if the redundancy are the managers! There are as always too many of them !; And if you are contraction externally that silly as that will cost more- sounds like privatisation to me!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staffing numbers particularly in schools are already at a low where it is at times challenging to fully deliver the service. There are also many times where bins are not emptied or recycling centres are closing early due to staffing so these services must be protected.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't think it would be a good idea as not everyone is technical and actually makes everything a lot harder if you can't speak to a person. Also a lot of services have already moved online and I do not think it is helpful. I do not think people losing their jobs is going to help it will just make your unemployment higher.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Through "modernising the council" there must be assurances on the people who work and live in the council. With the local financial climate looking to continue for the next few years and will surely have an impact, the council must look to it's staff and employees and not simply replace with technology which will not be able to complete jobs to the same level but simply be taking jobs away. I worry that services which are absolutely vital to our most vulnerable in West Lothian would be taken away - library, elderly services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think it is important to cap the salaries of the top paid managers and executives within the council. It makes no sense to cut the lowest paid members of staff when the top earners in the council earn so much.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology combined with a reduction in staff will not lead to greater efficiency.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Important not to overstretch individuals or create single points of failure through such 'efficiencies'. Successful services need to be human as well as efficient.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff levels and combining services will impact on how things are delivered. How will the the council be able to react to poor service delivery if they are constantly understaffed or overworked? Once services such as community centres are closed or unmanned they are never replaced or reopened, has the future impact been fully considered?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The fundamental problem with the council is the structure far too top heavy in management and administration. Bring in all the technology you can however you need the correct skills and competencies to deliver effective and streamlined processes. ; Contracted services are the cost cow for the misuse of tax-payers monies.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No job cuts!!!!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Pk ad long as job reductions are natural wastage and not redundancies	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cutting staff numbers means more people unemployed. Therefore putting more pressure on other services to fund them when they do not have a job. Employing more staff would take the pressure off unemployed funding. Meaning more staff to provide the services we are supposed to get that we pay for and don't get. Why do you always have to save money when we are paying more and more for council tax and getting less services because you keep reducing staff. The people at the top keep getting more and more money while the people at the bottom lose jobs and we get less services. Utter nonsense !	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff at such a significant time is detrimental to everyone. Will result in poorer customer service and by merging teams, will give current staff members more work to do on the same pay.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think there needs to be recognition from above that there are groups of staff that aren't very busy working on strategic work. They work hard to make themselves busy but their focus is often "nice things to do". It appears to many of their colleagues that there is very little control over their work or, more importantly, their focus. They don't work with central services – they do what they want whether it is a good thing, most effective thing, a strategic priority or not ; ; There seems to be no realisation at a senior level that the work of these people is neither important, a priority. . What they do achieve is causing significant work load for their colleagues within other teams and services, who are tasked with supporting them. We can receive up to a dozen requests a day from some large services for work that is not important. It is not strategic and it is never discussed by anyone as being an important service – neither from a customer's perspective nor a council one. The big ticket/strategic priorities seem to be missed and the focus is spent on these nice to do things. Ultimately it causes a real problem for this organisation. It means your core internal services are bogged down by larger services that are focusing on items that we can all see aren't that important. It contradicts the idea that we focus on priority areas. The issue is, we say "Jobs and Economic Development" is important. "Caring for vulnerable people" is important. Of course they are. However we then give certain services large budgets to support the buzz words - the work doesn't appear to match the outcomes you'd want to achieve. Then it falls apart because there is no real purpose or strict focus on what that budget is being used for. Are they actually tackling these briefs or are they doing the nice things that look good but really achieve very little? ; ; Because they have large budgets, rather than be good and efficient they recruit staff as the answer. More staff results in more demand for central services that aren't able to meet this demand. The central services are left struggling to work through their work plans and they can see that the demand is being caused by large teams, not really focused or accountable, not really doing what they should do. It's basically – really inefficient. This is resulting in silos, services off on their own, doing their own thing. Heads of Service are so busy with reports and stuff that they can't see the wood for the trees. Their teams make errors, they need fixed. They	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	you're already running on the bare number of staff who are under immense stress	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staffing may be managed through natural waste as thinning out then losing staff due to retirement and movement may leave critical areas under experienced which can take catch up of a couple of years.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff number should not mean more work put on already under pressure staff. Any reductions in staff must be only be done where the actual work can be cut down accordingly, or consideration should be given to staff workload and stress levels.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As a former recent employee for WLC, there's way too much money wasted on so called services. Contributing very large amounts to employees pensions and bring it down to what most other people in the private sector get, contributions to the "people's pension" Stop all employee benefits including social events, picking up bills for counselling services etc etc etc..... in the private sector, employees have to pick up their own bills! Stop all corporate functions paid or contributed by WLC, there are many of them!! Councillors expenses and what's allowed and accepted is shambolic! I could go on and on and on. WLC are an absolute disgrace when it comes to employee "benefits"	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Middle management within the council is quite frankly shocking, way too many who do very very little work, but pick up very health salaries!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As a council employee i fail to see where cuts could be made, within my setting, internet, devices and technology are not fit for purpose, especially the internet, it is frequently down which makes doing our jobs very difficult/impossible some days	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's disappointing to note that despite numerous cuts to services, loss of services and staff reductions the Council is faced with doing the same, not sure if there is much meat left on the bone!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There's very little information here for me to comment on - do I support service redesign, integration, and modernisation? Yes, however I want that without putting more stress on staff (i.e. not asking less staff to do more work). I don't want to see a move to digital by default without putting in place the support mechanisms to help those with low digital skills / no access to technology (and I don't mean the underfunded library services that currently exist, put digital skill training in place in libraries).	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Maybe some much higher paid staff could consider a pay cut to stop others from losing jobs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	With purely a technology focus, which is key here, lesser use of contract staff on daily rates could be a consideration with necessary training provided to permanent council staff in these areas.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff by redundancies at a time when cost of living is on the up is unethical.; Why not rather pay the non-essential figure heads less money and stop bonus and excess expense claims that drain the purse	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do believe reviewing sub contracted services and looking to better value for money or reducing cost is a way forward. Agency staff and subcontracting services is expensive and often poor standard.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Too much middle management roles were maybe one person could oversee all areas or groups relevant to their department.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Top heavy with management. Always have. Been and your service is basically terrible compared to years ago .. just take a walk round the streets .	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Less large pay rises for higher management and councillors along with ridiculous expenses incurred with travelling especially to and from conferences (unnecessary)	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Give the teacher the pay rise they want	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would like to see a commitment to this despite the cuts. external contracts should absolutely be brought back in-house, support your own staff to be pioneers, invest in them not fat cats. I am of the opinion that cutting staff is a short-term win and often causes problems in the future with failure to develop a future workforce, these cuts should not be at the mercy of this. We have a struggling market for skills now, there needs to be a robust workforce plan despite these cuts.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Concern over more staff cuts, especially when staff are currently doing more than one job as when people leave, the work is distributed to people already struggling to do their current job.; Also some external contractors monthly rate can be the same as an employee annual salary, when it would be better to give/train people and give them opportunity to better themselves and save so much money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cut upper management and spend money wisely.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Personally I believe that every member of staff should be no longer working from home. All these council buildings and offices not being used to their full potential is a waste.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As for restructuring the Councillors themselves should be taking a look in the mirror when it comes to claiming expenses. No more junkets and more focus in the job at hand.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce assets or buildings home working must have created space to allow buildings to be reduced	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Very difficult to comment without more detail to know how this would affect work of services. Finance support has already been reduced over the last few years so I am not clear how this could be done further.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Generally happy with services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Generally happy with the services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	No opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Is this going to be a re design and waste of money or will it actually work	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Interested to know how much of an impact this is likely to have on the customer	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance for our customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What effect does that have on those who will be out of a job though	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council need to be transparent and provide details of which departments are amalgamating, who the teams will be an contact details. Already it is difficult to contract certain departments due to low resource numbers.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	So who is redesigning, the integration, use of technology, and the impact it will have on the people who pay the costs????; How can it possibly be cost effective to outsource some services instead of using your own employees	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is a large figure. It'd be helpful to know how these savings have been calculated and what specific services would be replaced by technologies etc. Without this detail, it's hard to tell how council services will be impacted.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How can the Mp's agree these cuts after increasing council tax? How much additional funds were raised through the last round of council tax increases and where have those additional funds been allocated? How can you now tell constituents that you have to cut resources and teaching hours and make saving when you have just increased revenue by increasing our council tax? Please explain why there is still a funding gap and the need for these proposed cuts?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. Costs have continued to increase and by law the council has to balance the budget - this requires either increased income or reduced costs.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is difficult to quantify as a resident- as the service provider we have to trust you to manage funds appropriately.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cuts should be made at top level management as there are no front line staff left to cut. The staff who actually deliver the service need to be available for face to face communication. Staff are already doing multiple tasks within their job remit and are seriously coming close to overload with their workload at the present time.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cutting more staff will impact on these services and result in poor service to the public, especially in view of all the money being spent on partnership centres which show a face to the public that is not true, i.e. no staff to run the centres.; Staff are already doing multiple jobs within their remit, if this continues then staff will be stretched to the limits of their capacity.; If cuts are made surely this should be done at the top level of management as frontline have been slashed numerous times already.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Considering other Local Authorities close to WLC are taking a more effective approach with allowing staff to work from home on a full-time basis and as a result, the Local Authorities are looking to close buildings to save costs. It's very concerning that WLC's first approach is to reduce staff numbers further in the first instance before looking at using digital technology and remote working alongside building rationalisation.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Considering other Local Authorities close to WLC are taking a more effective approach with allowing staff to work from home on a full-time basis and as a result, the Local Authorities are looking to close buildings to save costs. It's very concerning that WLC's first approach is to reduce staff numbers further in the first instance.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cost reductions on externally provided services are usually made at the expense of the workers in these firms. Please build in safeguards to ensure this does not happen.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Council is a living wage employer and encourages suppliers to pay the Living Wage.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Care should be exercised when integration is planned so as to balance need and expertise	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology can cost a lot of money, how would you actually achieve this, in-house or open market. In my experience in-house always turns out to be ineffective and in the long run more expensive. Please consider this properly.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cutting excess staff and modernisation of service delivery is essential. This must be done.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Try this, before you start charging us for more and giving us less in return. Focus on reducing/eliminating top-heavy management structures and greedy, bureaucratic tender processes that leave council departments forced to use contractors and suppliers which are often seriously overpriced.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Efforts should always be taken to avoid compulsory redundancies.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This makes sense, provision of service with improved technology	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	'would change through redesign'; At a savings of £1.2 million; Surely, if feasible, this should take place anyway?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Investing in electronic provision of any compliance documentation would save printing costs, but obviously would cause costs in providing the necessary IT equipment to facilitate. Consideration would have to be given to emergency pack provision. but holding all compliance documentation electronically would save on printing out of lengthy reports and save on paper, ink, electricity costs in the long term. Consider IT portal (or app) contractors / clients / RP / Duty holders can log in to or fixed computer or tablet on site that is easily accessible for all required users.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Make your staff talk to each other	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You should be working at reducing the amount of waste used - paperless billing - saves postage, printing and paper costs and helps the environment. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Offer voluntary service widely to reduce headcount.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree time to reduce management posts.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Annual cut backs impact greatly on roles and remits, however, staff are always accomodating and supportive as these are essential. However, consideration should be given to a tipping point.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What protections will be in place to redeploy staff (where possible) who are caught up in the efficiency drive.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Stop using 3rd party (Capita) to collect revenues..	4. The council is already doing this.	The council collects income, however there are some contracts for debt collection. All external contracts are subject to best value requirements. The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Stop wasting money on irrelevant things.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think we need to be careful when thinking of consolidating services that services are not reduced or removed to the point that there is significant disruption to services provided.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think we need to be careful when thinking of consolidating services that services are not reduced or removed to the point that there is significant disruption to services provided. In other local authorities, the removal/reduction of services has removed youth clubs and groups provided to young people to the point that there is a significant increase in youth related anti-social behaviour. This then in turn needs more input from the police and other emergency services to deal with the backlash that comes from having little or no services provided in the preventative work that helps build positive relationships with young people so that they are active, positive citizens within society. A prime example of this is what is happening in England, London in particular, where services for young people have been cut so drastically that there has been an expediential increase in youth related anti-social behaviour and gangs.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff should have the option to work some of their time from home with decent equipment.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Working from home allows for less staff buildings. Working from home or only a few days in the office each week should be a permanent change. Or offer all staff a compressed week and only open staff buildings 4 days a week.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Offer redundancy/voluntary severance as widely as possible. Shake up the age profile of the Council.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think that ensuring that current digital services are running efficiently is more important than introducing new digital services.	4. The council is already doing this.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Schools and young people will need access to devices and wifi.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	These costs cutting measures would evoke more anger in people who actually pay their Council Tax as it is becoming more evident every day that tax payers receive very little in the way of Council Services. Perhaps a more vigorous chase on lost revenue would be far more beneficial to All!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Services will struggle with reduced staffing and in turn will affect the customer. Savings could be made in other way rather than cutting/reducing services. An example could be selling unused buildings.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	West Lothian Council needs to take greater advantage of any grants available to support/develop the services it ultimately decides that it will continue to provide. Too often this has been left to staff to identify and take advantage, to enable service functions to be provided to the public.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council maximises income from external sources to support service delivery. Staff involved in service delivery are often best placed to identify these opportunities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Technology is great if used correctly but is not always the best option, some customers prefer people to talk to as technology does not always have the correct options available and you feel that you don't get what you require when questions and answers are automated. Maybe better training and correct use of staff might improve services provided.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How would this be done, and at what cost? Continuous improvement should be embedded within everyday business practices removing the need for large-scale and costly transformation programmes.	4. The council is already doing this.	Performance and improvement is embedded within council services but the scale of the financial challenges facing the council means changes to ways of working are required to deliver efficiency
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	working from home should be a default position for administrative roles.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Greater use of technology and minimising the number of systems will help efficiency and effectiveness, but I think it would be difficult to reduce staff numbers as currently this is at a skeleton level.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You do not detail the costs associated with this redesign. I question if it is realistic to realise the £1.2m savings within 3 years unless the project has already been scoped. The reality is perhaps that certain jobs/ services are already earmarked for rationalisation. Naturally, redundancy costs will also need to be factored, so I question if this is a genuine opportunity.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unfortunately, most of technologies needs to be run by people so maybe instead of reduction of staff council would consider developing more trainings/courses and re-train staff to be more sufficient with using technology, also staff who is in retirement age (pass the knowledge in properly build programmes which also give them more satisfaction and extra funds to go retire) but build new generation of employees with already basic knowledge. Recently I have been witnessing a lot of small / family run companies being with the council many years losing their contracts and literally closing down. Giving the contracts to companies outside West Lothian is not exactly fair and people working for companies based in WL not only pay taxes in here but also contributing to the communities. And giving many many more.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Before more staff are rationalised manager should make sure that all the staff cuts that were earmarked in the TYC 5 year saving plan between 18/19 and 22/23 have all taken place and if not these should be done before the new planned cuts take place.;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Please lose fewer staff at the top end of salaries rather than lots at the bottom end. Making people unemployed is not the answer, redeployment in other areas should be considered.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As a local Government body we should be using the funding that we receive to make sure we are providing the most efficient services as is possible.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	third party service providers should only be selected where there is a cost saving to be achieved. Due diligence must be carried out to a platinum standard and be above industry average;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Outsourcing to third parties requires additional expertise inside the council to properly specify and then monitor the third party delivery of services - specialist procurement expertise with a demonstrable track record in service outsourcing procurement.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using the most cost effective outside contractors who are also reliable and not just those with a 'friend' at the council would be a more effective use of money and save in the long term when poor work does not need to constantly be repaired.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Would rather talk to someone	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As long as you can speak to a person to resolve issues	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Please make sure that there is a balance throughout the area. Last time you were doing cost cutting, you were going to close Linlithgow recycling centre and only have them along the m8, which was not very fair.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	be more open	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	When reducing staff numbers, redesigning services and integrating teams, cognisance needs to be taken on how this will affect staff, teams and services which often is overlooked. This can have a significant impact on individuals as their needs are not taken into consideration, nor is how the amalgamation of teams/services. This can affect operational staff significantly and procedures and how these are impacted are overlooked.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The Council are renowned for changing things and whilst change happens they drop the ball and it take forever to be up and running or staff have to utilise two system for a full picture of things making it less effective and efficient and overall impact is resource drain and poor customer service. When entering into any new modernisation strategy a proper full risk assessment needs considered, trialled before accepting.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Surely this should have been an ongoing exercise to ensure funds are put to best use. Customers should not receive a poorer service because the business is being streamlined to meet current needs	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We need to be flexible, whilst providing the same service to internal/external customers...; cost savings need to be taken in areas that are not going to impact council users..	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce beurocracy	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It can be a nightmare to contact people in the council especially if there is a problem , there should always be a digital route with an option to contact if required	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Work needs to be undertaken to ensure internal processes support staff members to complete work efficiently.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	embrace working from home	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	more apprentices	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Have everyone who can do work from; Home	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Agree to reviewing external contracts however internal staff numbers are important.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	employ younger generation with new fresh ideas, more apprenticeships	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	More integrated services within Partnership Buildings. Some staff willing to do all tasks but others "its not my job".	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If more staff were able to work from home there would be less requirement for buildings, heating, maintaining etc. This is something that should be welcomed	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Business support is the heart of any team and are vital to make teams efficient. Technology improvement is great, however we must remember that not all clients can work with tech.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is hoped flexible/home working continues within WLC allowing a further reduction in building closures.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I feel that the Council/Govmnt allow way to much council tax arrears, rent arrears happen and more action should be taken to those that dont pay rent/council tax, same as all those tenants in new build council homes who do not look after and they end up wrecked, this would lower the debts and give you more funds. Reducing public services is not an acceptable option	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity. This consultation is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is an increasingly high risk that there just won't be enough people left to do the work required. Better management of the budget would mean that fewer jobs would go. Before cutting any more jobs you should look carefully at the activity that is being funded and carefully consider what value it actually adds. You could develop a transparent operating/business plan, like private organisations, that decides in advance each year what projects will get budget and only fund activity that firstly has statutory obligations, then anything that is not statutory, or required to support statutory commitment - like support services, should be scrutinise to ensure that it aligns to the 8 council priorities.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council uses a priority based approach to budgeting in the identification of potential budget saving options. The council has delivered balanced budgets each year since 1996. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. External audit and regulation provides no evidence of reckless spending.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unfortunately we have not much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events, Leaving EU etc. My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is already committed to supporting economic development and inward investment in West Lothian.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is important to increase productivity and efficiency with a human perspective.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Outsourcing resources to external companies may save money in the short term; however as the costs from these companies increase, it would be hard and very costly to return to a council operated service. We should be thinking of long term effects on the council's operations rather than rushing into a short term fix.	4. The council is already doing this.	The scale of the budget reductions required over the next five years will be challenging. The council takes a medium to long term approach to its financial planning to ensure any changes it makes are sustainable in the medium to long term.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If staff are sitting with little to do, then there is room for efficiency savings through staff cuts. If existing staff need retraining to make them more efficient, then this would be good. But I'm not in favour of putting people out of work unless every other avenue has been fully pursued.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It would seem wiser to take a strategic look at home working and where it might be appropriate on a long term/permanent basis as well as hybrid working it reduce council buildings. Currently it seems to be up to managers with huge variation across the council. Some hybrid working could take advantage of community centres, having a small hot desk and meeting space in each for teams to meet and work but without a lot more information it is hard to comment further.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	jobs should be consolidated where possible and better use of computer systems to cut down on general admin	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	External cost review is important, as is transparency around who wins the contract. Any possible bias needs to be declared by those awarding contracts. Why - because trust can't be regained once lost. Please no over reliance on Consultants. They are a massive cost and have little value to members of the public.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Working from home and rotating when workers access council building will help this.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Allow staff to work from home and have more hybrid working and less office space.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cut out the pipe dreams and pet projects which quite frankly are not only a waste of money but a waste of council staff resources. There are currently projects in the pipeline which dont even satisfy the design / build criteria but the council are pushing ahead spending money it could be saving, or spending more wisely.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. In some cases, external funding requirements demand investment in certain areas (e.g. Spaces for People).

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council need to think about some of the services are vital for a lot of people. Some times certain services are cut that are needed and others are a waste of money and not essential in other areas.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council uses a priority based approach to budgeting in the identification of potential budget saving options.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	External contracts need to be reviewed as it would surely be cheaper and provide a better service if using in-house local people. Contracting out is used as an excuse for getting rid of staff when there should be more taken on and trained to do these jobs and then you would have flexibility in your workforce. It cannot save money if an external company is doing the same job, as they have to make a profit. Services should not be run for profit.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Every morning your council staff sit in the Fauldhouse Cemetery car park doing nothing, stop this kind of behaviour to save money and get your staff actually working	4. The council is already doing this.	This will be investigated as part of the staff performance and supervisory practice.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consultation with customers and a staged approach and testing with customers where appropriate would be useful to see how large the disruption etc is	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You need to modernise your IT	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Essential that meaningful consultation is carried out with the trade unions on this matter.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Although Pecos is meant to provide buying power and this does benefit in relation to saving on some instances. I think that the this can also be restrictive in many smaller scale purchases which end up costing the more. i.e. More reliable and effective translation and sign language services are available at a lesser cost.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	External contractor not the answer, there work is not up to standard and council workmen often sent after to sort, gross mismanagement and no control on council part	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Stop giving all the work out to contractors and keep the work inhouse at building services!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Housing Customer & Building Services uses Building Services for the majority of work in its residential housing stock. Some work will require contractors by law like asbestos management and removal. Contractors will continue to be used to meet short term or emergency demand or to cover shortfalls created by pressure from the private sector on skilled tradespeople
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Need to understand in more detail what this actually means and the impact it would have for all including the customer	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Using contractors surely is dearer! ; Employ your own. Council used to be a great service. Now a utter disgrace. Waiting months for jobs to be fixed.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The number one area not to cut back on is public health, either through local NHS services or providers of health and wellbeing such as West Lothian Leisure, who provide an amazing service to the community.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	4 day week? I think we'd all accept an extra 1 hour a day to have a 3 day recovery.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	A thought: Do the council operate a staff referral scheme? Recruitment agencies can be quite costly for finding a candidate to fill a role. Perhaps it would be cheaper to offer the referring member of staff £x amount if the person they refer gets and stays in the job for 6 months as a minimum? OR council staff get a small bonus if they don't take any days off sick each year. It is possible as I am someone who has not had a day off sick in 18 years.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It would be terrible if WLC got rid of their staff and then replaced them with 3rd sector staff force.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What is the impact on customers?; Would it be possible to change the Council to being a charity and would this save us all money?;	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If you do introduce advanced systems, why not build in an extra fees charging structure based on actual usage and try to develop profit centres rather than just trying to cut costs which increasingly aren't sensibly there to be achieved - can you do this? Sorry if you can't?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The reality is that the council will invariably choose badly when it comes to technology and reduce the staff regardless of whether or not that technology is in place. As well as this 'advanced' technology needs skilled staff to work with it and get the maximum out of it. The reality is that technical skills within the council are lacking. Recruitment should include a technical test that at the very minimum should include a validation that the individual is able to use MS office products at least. I spend significant portions of my time providing assistance to staff at all levels who should have better skills coming in the door. With regards to choosing technology. Procurement is a tricky process and staff without experience often handle work that is outside their skillset. Leading to a competition where the winner is not chosen by the best or most knowledgeable people. As well as this there should be an inclusion of preset questions on key topics like cyber security and data protection requirements. iTrent is a key example of technology chosen by the wrong people. the interface is horrendous and the system is slow, clunky and unintuitive. As well as this a quick google search shows that the top results where users comment on the product are all negative.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Whilst this Woolf be welcomed I would have concerns with new systems being implemented with little or no training and that require some specialist knowledge to use such as iTrent. I also continue to have concerns about not being able to access HR support with often no replies to emails on challenging staffing situations as well as the implementation of such systems increasing my workload.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Allow people to comment on WLC pages and not block them because you don't like constructive feedback.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council website is intended to keep West Lothian residents informed about council services and the local area and also, it provides them with access to the council services that they need (for those who wish to transact with the council online). The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Any time reducing staff members is mentioned usually results in worsening of a service. If things are being contracted out, that is where you start looking at cutting back	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduction in staff also needs to change target times and dates for contact.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think the Council should cut back external funding to areas when there are superior services already within the Council i.e. CAB. Funding is often more easily available to external organisations and then many of these services are also provided additional funding from the council with little in return.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	External services whilst should be reviewed should not automatically be take "back in house" as this could actually prove to be counter productive	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	When putting up buildings for young people, don't just pay the usual developers, think bigger, get value and more bang for your buck - get modular buildings like forward thinking countries do.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Council to attain best value for project.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Shared services between councils should be sought out before cutting staff.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Wow, disgusting that the Government can waste money on public services. I commend you for your efforts at a difficult time. Have you thought of having your business 24/7, employing people who want to work nights or weekends so that you can spread your operations over a 7 day period and not just 5? If utilities and shops can do it so could you.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council has already cut staff back to the bone through TYC. There are very few people left to deliver qualitative services. Employees are working long hours and sickness absence is on the increase due to stress and anxiety. The council should seek to cut specific projects and programmes that don't delivery any meaningful outcomes or contribute directly to delivery of the 8 priorities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The council should seek to cut specific projects and programmes that don't delivery any meaningful outcomes or contribute directly to delivery of the 8 priorities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I'm all for consolidating service but the council must not lose sight of the fact staff MUST be upfront and centre at local centres for a more inclusive service of older people.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There are a number of services that can be integrated! More home working due to technology. Redevelopment of areas which increase public spend to generate income.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Perhaps expanding on the "redesigning of services" would be of greater help as this would highlight the services being targeted. As we are all aware, the majority of services once provided by the Council have diminished in size quite considerably over the last few years. I am struggling to think outside of refuse collection???	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If there is the option of staff being redeployed or offered voluntary redundancies or early retirement I think this has less of a traumatic effect on staff.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Perhaps consolidation of services could help, those people could have one point of contact for all the services they use.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Integration of teams will work, if it does not overwhelm employees.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce staff offices and roll out flexible working pilot scheme for sense of certainty for staff.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Rather than further reduction I believe it is best to look at the functionality and the process to see if the council can work as a whole rather than separate entities where funding is doubled up with a mixture of technology and isn't being shared across the board.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	When consolidating services, will you ensure front facing staff are available for support and advice (also, not all services are available at the times stipulated online currently). Speaking to an advisor often helps alleviate anxiety and stress thereby aiding good mental health.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The Council will seek to maintain or improve customer service standards and will review targets and advise customers of any changes to service standards where this is deemed to be appropriate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Front line services and jobs need to be retained. It maybe departmenters can be combined, natural wastage is not replaced.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Closer working across the Council with better communication would be of more benefit to the people of West Lothian rather than reducing services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Management level staffing reductions should be looked at, to make larger savings without impacting customer services as much.; Working from home should be premiant were possible and the option of a 4 day week, full time hours compressed to 4 days.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	New ways of working both during and following the Covid pandemic mean that the need to occupy so many offices has reduced. It is time to consolidate into fewer offices and either sell or lease those that are vacated. This would provide either capital or revenue income as well as reducing or saving entirely the annual revenue budget expenditure for these buildings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We currently have employees who are very knowledgable in their specialised field we need to utilise this expertise and ensure that the correct people are making the correct decisions. Redeployments put us in danger of losing this critical knowledge to an area that is not suited to the skills of the employee. Greater use of technology is advantageous but only if we invest heavily in "real" training as opposed to guidance notes sent out with a login and helpdesks which are not live.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There are areas where duplication of work could be looked at.; ie Learning and Development across all council services could be brought under one team. This would help minimise costs around staffing, resources such as multiple SVQ centre costs and learning platforms, individual services duplicating costs for training that is used across multiple service areas, increase expertise with staff and allow for a coordinated approach to training and skill development of staff.; ; Bringing together staff from services areas under one team who are doing similar work, to make a more effective service and cut out a middle man. This is most relevant to areas such as customer engagement, media and online design and services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We can make savings and improvements through service redesign and greater use of technology, but that it should be understood that there needs to be additional resource in place to first implement this before any savings can be realised. If cuts are made before the new processes are fully tested and established there is a risk to service delivery. There also needs to be ongoing support for any changes or refinements which are needed. We need to consider training to ensure our staff can make best use of what we already have rather than procuring new systems. Consideration also needs to be given to customers with additional support needs or lack of access to technology.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe reviews should be made to the external contracted services to ensure the council is not overpaying, it definitely concerns the community that the finances are not being allocated efficiently and effectively, this was so evident during Covid lockdowns when money was spent filling to then reinstate bus stops and reducing to then increase again local speed limits. These things are quite honestly unforgivable and unfathomable and I very confident if you discussed with the local community they could think of many other ways to spend that money.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Training, team building, and performance reviews should be conducted in person from a council building	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	dont get contractors in, keep your own staff.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cutting staff numbers is one way to save money but if processes do not change then the staff that remain will just get more work to do when they are already overstretched at the moment. ; ;	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Must protect front line staff and services such as statutory child protection, early intervention, mental health and support and care to elderly and vulnerable. A good standard of housing for all must be a continued priority also.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	a strategic partnership should be established with a technology provider	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Perhaps we have the expertise and technology in house to cover externally contracted services, which must save cost reductions.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Use of technology is a fantastic however the technology needs to be fit for purpose. you must ensure that the people who are using the technology are able to be involved in any consultations in it's design. Managers do not always have a 'hands on' knowledge.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is no specific information as to how you will "redesign services" or relevant examples, nor is there any information as to how it will "impact customers". Assuming the reduction in numbers would result in higher wait times, it would be good if WLC adopted an online ticketing system where users could review the progress of any queries, update them etc. I wouldn't mind waiting longer for an answer or solution if I was able to actually check on its progress. At the present time you email and await a response but have no idea of where it is the queue or any updates. You then have to go back, find the original reference and email again.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Certainly in the financial area to reduce the intake/output of cash/cash handling re lunch monies, outings - costs are given out in cash although some companies (Deer Park - ten pin bowling) are taking card payments only... perhaps something electronic could be set up as in schools for lunches especially	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Also working from home and smaller offices should a. Account for some cost savings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Close buildings that are unnecessary- work from home more.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I believe our customers pay well for good quality services and wherever possible, reviewing contracts with external providers first should be the priority rather than staff losses at the Council.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities, whether those services are delivered internally or externally.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consider the particular services and scope which would be affected by this when thinking about the outsourcing of risk related to external contracted services, and the weight that would be placed back on the service bringing such contracted services in house again.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As a council employee it strikes me as odd that we have multiple systems which do the same functions in different services, for example I am aware of multiple document management systems.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Would reviewing all externally contracted services provide an opportunity to save money and ensure that the council wasn't paying too much for these services?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would raise the following points: 1. What changes do WLC forecast to their statutory requirements, and how will it manage the potential impact on customers?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to deliver its core responsibilities including its statutory duties and obligations. However, it is important that these duties are undertaken effectively and efficiently and any reviews will seek to ensure that this is the case.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I work in the tourism sector and I see lots of crossover between what is provided by the local authority and other publicly funded organisations such as VisitScotland and other organisations such as Scottish Tourism Alliance. There could be some savings here.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	One suggestion is to increase flexible working arrangements (i.e allow staff more scope to work from home, this would save on costs (electricity / fewer laptops using the electricity at any one given time).	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Can the public be shown the proposed service redesign plans? What are projected savings based on, reduction of staff head count? What exactly is meant by the statement; "There will be an impact on customers but we will seek to minimise the impact..." What is the actual nature of this "impact", and in what customer areas would this occur? If a reduction in operating times for public access to council offices or services, then this would be unacceptable.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Salami slicing is no longer sustainable; many statutory services are now cut to the bone. Services like revenues have always had continuous improvement at the heart, with automation built in, whereas other services still have to make that journey. ; ; Better to concentrate efforts on services that could really improve systems & processes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What will the impact be on customers - not specified?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	please close venues that aren't well used. We can't keep libraries open if they aren't well used. Use data to show what isn't used and close them or stagger open times.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Many of these support services could be shared with other councils, as shared service centres would help reduce costs further.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would like to see more shared services like the nhs embraced a decade ago. Councils seem highly adverse to the idea but cant afford to be	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think since the return to business operating as near to normal after covid19 restrictions as possible, it is obvious that many services from WLC departments have either been removed, reduced or relocated. Some positive savings may be obvious - and this would be a great opportunity to explain to residents what WLC have done to become 'leaner' during this time. Services from a public visual perspective appears to have been reduced greatly and/or removed impacting negatively on street hygiene, dog fouling and fly tipping getting worse - again having a negative impact on the environment and the community we live in. This 'feel like' we are paying for a service that is poorly / or not delivered.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Greater efficiency would be achieved if staff were able to deliver services rather than going out with, training and developing existing staff- would increase morale and promote retention. Staff have been doing the same job for years, they become complacent and disinterested, I have worked for other companies who promote staff moving their internal role every four to five years to allow them to develop their knowledge and skills.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	please spend money on building capacity for staff currently employed and less on contracting in 3rd sector agencies. we have untapped talent that is not being used, and resources can be shared amongst services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I think the structure of the whole Council needs to be addressed. ; Council seems to be top heavy and not enough staff of the shop floor to be able to deliver the vital services needed to the communities of West Lothian.; Yes you intergrate service but then end up with senior/manager overload.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	merge similar services together and look to reduce top tier management levels	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	merge similar services together and look to reduce or minimise top tier management services - this would save money	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	merge similar services and look to reduce or minimise top tier services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	merge similar services together and look to reduce or minimize workers	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	merge similar services together and look to reduce top tier management levels	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	merge similar services together and look to reduce top tier management.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As staff are hybrid working which is sucessful if the trial is permanent locations could be closed and other units could be used	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers is leaving the need for people unable to actually ask questions, and get proper answers.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Loss of jobs is difficult in this current economic environment	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	staff cuts are something that in my opinion should be avoided or be an absolute minimum. many departments are operating understaffed at present and further cuts will have an adverse effect on service provision and staff morale.; morale is very low at the moment and many staff feel under-valued. cutting more jobs will push many departments to breaking point	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staffing is already low, due to inability to recruit. Pressures incumbent on staff during COVID remain. Staff should be consulted who are likely to be impacted by redesign, including front facing staff to gather ideas and views. Working with other councils across borders should be considered too, where possible to gain experience and share staff for common interests e.g. environment, cost savings, social care etc.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Some areas have already streamlined through looking at processes and methods of working and are still proactively doing this. There are internal barriers to being able to progress due to the need to interact with other service areas who sometimes are not on board. There are also hurdles with the I.T requirements to facilitate changes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Will only work if the services put in place actually do support what is happening in the real world. Having people working from home and saving on Civic Centre costs only works if those working from home can answer telephone calls as they would normally rather than relying on emails which can take days to answer.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Some areas have already streamlined through looking at processes and methods of working and are still proactively doing this. There are internal barriers to being able to progress due to the need to interact with other service areas who sometimes are not on board. There are also hurdles with the I.T requirements to facilitate changes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You can reduce staff in the community centre by getting rid of the team manager as this is an extra position.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is already reviewing staff numbers and structures as part of this proposal. Where possible it is hoped that savings come from efficiency and improvements rather than job reductions
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is duplication in areas being provided by 3rd sector organisations such as ROOTS referral process and SMILE counselling.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Could make better use the website and other social media to provide information - needs to be included as a matter of course into every project.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council website is intended to keep West Lothian residents informed about council services and the local area and also, it provides them with access to the council services that they need (for those who wish to transact with the council online). The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The use of laptops and better mobile phones has been welcomed and have been a positive when utilising these to support clients. What would be beneficial is if staff can access printing facilities out with their designated offices, which would allow for better use of time and less travel if for example partnership centres could be accessed by all staff for printing facilities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Better use of technology could see council tenants reporting maintenance issue etc, through an online portal (rather than waiting 40 mins to get through on the phone). I think you could expand the online capability to cover the vast majority of the reasons a person may need to contact the council.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	And when considering technology upgrades, make sure they the software packages speak to each other and are compatible.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	New technology is good but be wary as integration between different services is particularly hard as there are so many variables. You may waste a lot of money trying to achieve the impossible. Basic things need to work if you implement them. I emailed the council earlier this year to join in the next council meeting and got no response.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ensure proper research is undertaken and suitable systems are employed for all using them - otherwise it may be a saving to IT Services but add large amounts of unproductive time and effort to the staff using them. As staff costs are usually the greatest burden on an organisation these also need to be evaluated. Most organisations with the size of land assets WLC manage have a properly integrated GIS based inventory and management database, covering legal and management aspects in one place so that officers undertaking work can produce proper woodland / landscape management plans, including these aspects with all being stored in one place. Some, like that of Woodland Trust, has information from this connected to budgeting and accounts and contracts. I could arrange for a demonstration if this would be helpful. One-size fits all systems may in fact be more costly overall. Eg including trees and woods into a system for recording structures such as lamp posts, which unlike trees don't grow, may in fact be more time-consuming, not produce information in a format for applying for grants and therefore add staff time and costs elsewhere. We along with many other councils have found Confirm does not provide the GIS facility we need for Tree & Woodland management along with other semi-natural and formal growing landscapes. Packages such as TreePlotter / TreePlotter Parks / Easytreev are better suited for this. Have been trying to sort out a proper inventory of what areas of woods and trees WLC owns for many years, as this is the first and essential aspect of any tree safety / management regime. Data on current systems inaccurate and incomplete due to work being undertaken in a piecemeal fashion by those on "light duties" not necessarily suited for the job is not necessarily cost effective as it has to be re-done. Better to start using hi-res, up to date aerial photography and legal layers from Property (which need to be all on one layer!) and plotting areas and then going on site to ground truth. Need for key reference GIS data to be properly managed and updated - therefore need for a WLC wide GIS Manager and small team to keep oversight of this across the council - GIS is useful for Education, Social work policy etc as well as land based, roads / property / land assets as everything has a location. Not sure if members and Senior Management have had a general awareness training in the usefulness of geo-spatial data -	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Libraries are important no dispute there however we need to find a way to centralise the facilities and have access open to all... having worked in a temporary role within WLC I have seen a lot of empty space not being utilised to its full capacity. I have neutral politics on this issue however access and information is so important in today's political landscape I am loathe to propose one over the other what I would support with increased taxes local or national is a one stop shop that supports all the local communities eg: a dedicated service for people with mobility issues/mental health issues / no access to Internet forums etc. this might be run over 7 days a week with allocated days being dedicated to one specific issue and therefore reducing the amount of physical building's requiring heating/ lighting/ staffing etc if we centralised and combine specific days with issues and free or subsidised transport requirements then I would hope we could combine resources and efforts for the benefit of all in West Lothian while making significant cost savings ?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The Council has a legislative requirement to provide library facilities and will review the most effective means of delivering this service, taking account of demand and opportunities to access activities which currently take place in libraries from other community facilities.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Save money by combining back office services with other authorities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What do other local authorities do, what is the benchmark. Has any thought been given to have shared services between LAs? West Lothian do HR for South Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire look after finance for West Lothian? Economies of scale and shared knowledge would improve services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Which services could join and be synergised to be more effective and allow significant savings? There must be a significant number that can be merged and adapted.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Impact on customers should be a priority - if technology is not able to meet their needs, then staff numbers should reflect this	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Consideration to using skills of staff to assist with any transition before the reduction in staffing. Lot of knowledge in the organisation that needs harnessed better,	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would be careful on reducing staff. Sometimes technology is not the way forward and trying to get answers from human is needed	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	You need to be more involved with your citizens and asking them to be actively participating in their needs to make it better as a whole	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I tried going online but was refused as my password was not accepted. If you want to have more people contacting you online. this sort of thing will have to be improved.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cost of the school day - would be keen to hear how the council thinks we can run afterschool clubs and pay for buses to venues, with no budget for this?? This has led to pupils now not being entered for competitions and fixtures which pupils in the past have had the experience of.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Headteachers have responsibility for prioritising devolved resources to meet the curricular requirements within their schools and ensure the delivery of the Broad General Education and for opportunities for wider achievements.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I feel like use are and have spent money on centralised building for every town Blackburn partnership, bathgate partner ship building, does this mean fewer staff being in, would seem a waste of money for the building being used or half used, using technology is great when it works, face to face or calls will always work better especially for elderly	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Your systems are convoluted and plainly - prone to being fiddled! I've lost count of the number of times I've discovered one part of the council not talking to another - and 'empire builders' acting to protect their own territories to the defeat of purpose! Cutting the rot out is no bad idea; but I doubt it will really happen! - Too much internal corruption couple to a culture of denial, ranks closing and bullying of whistleblowers!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hard for everyone else to	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	o £\$% k%"£\$"	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	20 pounds for family 150 pounds for year I tetnus Sept 1953 we live in upper flat since with son born 1975 ; I was given a tax card the refused it within 5 years i also received a 2nd banister to help me climb the stairs my illness stopped me working Sept 1993 ; went to Western General in June 1993 2x walking which took ages from home .; I went to ST Johns to see specialist every month with little hope I saw Prof who saw my a few times which told my illness could not be cured .; So here i am at same address with my wife and son cannot walk very far to get bus to take me I can get a bus but VERY Hard as need to hold on to my with just to get for the bus i get a treat with taxi but cost me 6.60 pounds not cheap for me	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Halo mám tri deti	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I know cuts have to be passed down but this is unbelievable. The UK and Scottish Govt should work together and forget indie2!!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not necessarily easier for everyone.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Just don't forget that west Lothian school kids are amongst the lowest achievers in secondary school exams.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Without knowing exactly where the reduction of services are it's hard to comment - elderly services and care in community is appalling everywhere please do not cut this	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Ndhd	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Halo ***** (redacted)	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Council needs to cut managers and non front line staff, concentrate on basic bus, roads schools. forget woke crap	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reduce the high paid clowncil bosses instead	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Please don't reduce staff numbers in the care sector, we need a higher staff to client ratio for proper care	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If staff are working from home more often than not, then they should have a reduced salary to reflect the cost savings they achieve. Whilst energy bills are up, they are not as much as fuel costs. Particularly staff in IT who for some reasons get to work from home all the time. These staff have basically been given a pay increase. Are they working better? Are IT projects more effective? I think we all know the answer to that. Staff in offices and teachers, waste etc have all had a pay cut, effectively.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	If you are having problems with three system or technology how can I recover it on my phone I have had problems getting into the system with my phone but don't have a computer is there any other ways I can sort it	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We have parents' evening system that requires vast amount of input for every year group - no staff consideration for this in schools	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Cut councillors wages	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	More money should be provided by the government. Local authorities should not be in this position. Services by the council should not be cut, if this continues to happen. Why have a council everything will be privatised.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The Chief Executives should take a cut in their huge salaries, for instance Graham Hope's salary is £144,927, two depute chief executives with £126,664 each, three heads of service at £103,574, one head of service received £101,636 and another three heads of service had salaries of £95,872....Overall the council's wage bill is over £200 million, so yeah, maybe take a wee pay cut as you make some cuts to our services?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As we are on a low income we can't afford anymore price hikes, it's bad even with the gas, electricity & petrol prices going up all the time, to me it looks like the government is trying to keep the poor even poorer, what you should do is stop paying the MPs top money, & paying for all the expenses like the second homes cars & all that.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council has no control over the pay of MSPs or MPs.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Please also work with the local councils round about, to ensure that there are facilities near by on transport routes. e.g. If you plan to close the pool in Linlithgow, please make sure Boness pool is remaining open.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council has an existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	We do not support cuts to police, ambulance or fire services.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Who is carrying out the review on savings, I hope it's not the council policing itself as that may be a waste of time, Turkeys for Christmas springs to mind. I think that WLC like many other councils in Scotland need a shake up, similar to private organisations and less jobs for the boys attitude.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Information provided is too vague to make any informed comments. What 'impact on customers' is expected?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Hard to comment without the detail of which services you intend to reduce and impact on citizens	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Clear as mud what your talking about. How about putting a plain English document clearly stating intentions	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not enough detail to judge the impact this might have.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There are no measures detailed here to comment on	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I've no idea what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This needs to be explained in layman's terms so that people can actually have a good understanding of what is being communicated here..some thing to do with cost reduction...	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Don't understand this issue	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Insufficient information provided to respond to.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Can't determine what this actually means as no detail given	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Lots of fancy words, be transparent and tell us what services you are cutting, and who will be affected please	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This isn't consultation its telling us what you are going to do. What will impact on customers,WL residents, be? Needs to be far more detailed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not enough detail to form a few . This statement is very wishy washy . Reduce mangement focus on front line staff.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What is the impact on the customer? Where are the staff going that have been reduced?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	What happened to plain English? There is no meaningful information here to comment on. Essentially saying job losses in some areas but who knows where or how many.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There is absolutely no detail about the council's intentions above. What services are being consolidated, what staff losses etc? This is the usual bog standard guff that is trotted out everytime cuts are discussed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is close to gobbledegook. If there is an impact on customers, then what kind of impact? Longer wait times for service response? Greater clarity is needed about what this actually means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How will that work? 'Restructuring' over- stretched services?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I would be keen to know what impact this will have on customers? It's not clear in your description.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't like the reduced staff numbers, and I would like to know more. Are these people redundant? What would be the impact on the community?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Can the use of external contractor service provision be quantified, and how is it implemented, managed and audited?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Can you please elaborate on the statement "The council will also review a small number of externally contracted services, with a view to achieving cost reductions.". Are you looking at expanding or reducing these "externally contracted services", or are you looking at bringing these back in house?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Am I supposed to be able to understand what this question is asking??!! So you're basically making cutbacks and you want comments on this? Unbelievable.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	can't comment as you have no specified which services will change;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Information provided is too vague to make any informed comments. What 'impact on customers' is expected?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Clear as mud what your talking about. How about putting a plain English document clearly stating intentions	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not enough detail to judge the impact this might have.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There are no measures detailed here to comment on	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I've no idea what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Don't understand this issue	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Insufficient information provided to respond to.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I'm not sure what the question is.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I do not understand what this means in practice and how this will affect me	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Without detail, this is vacuous policy talk.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Don't fully understand the proposal	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Don't really understand what this means exactly! Would need more information and details to make useful comments.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is difficult to evaluate without details. It sounds like some services will be cut, so bad news.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is just words not a lot said here!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't understand any of this	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Lack of detail in this statement	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not sure what this means	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Further details required before comments can be made!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The narrative is too vague to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to what this would involve or how it would affect individuals, services within the Council, no details of costs to implement new technology.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Sounds like a lot of what we would call 'w***(redacted)-speak'. A procession of words that mean nothing. A lot of that coming from the PM and FM this week. Consolidation . . .integration. . .impact. . .you may think these are fancy shiny impressive words. It's all rubbish. Fight harder for us. Stop short changing us. Stop giving the general public nonsense speak like above and give us honest, simple explanations. Your allowing us to be shafted, reducing the value of what we get for our taxpaying money. Criminals.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This whole evolution is littered with waffle. The council pays too many high (high-ish) salaries to largely unmotivated staff. The people that review these findings is most likely the cohort I'm speaking to. Address this wastage and focus less on more automated services that simply make the lives of us whom actually work very difficult as we haven't the time to hold for 20minutes only to be told another load of waffle (from the publishers of this 'consultation'.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is difficult to comment when there is no detail of what this actually means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This seems very vague, and I don't feel I can comment on it without knowing more details.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The wording of this question is poor. Public surveys should be clear and use plain English. As a member of the public, I have no idea what this means to public service and would generally agree to saving on something I don't understand if it can go to something that clearly provides value to the public like schools, parks, play areas, and roads etc. There is no obvious public service being lost here, there is a reference to impact on customers and seeking to minimise implies a negative impact, but why did you not define the negative impact? If this is to be a real consultation that is asking the public to weigh pros and cons and make an informed decision, surely you have to define the service or task clearly and define the pros and cons clearly? why would you not just save the £1.2 million anyway if you can't define the cons, why ask us?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	dont really know what this means	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Unable to comment as you haven't given any information on the services affected or how they will be affected.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Savings good for the public but what does it mean for staff??	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How can I comment when I don't know thd details of these changes. However, reduce the number of managers and put more 'doers' on the ground.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is difficult to provide comment to such proposals when it is so wide ranging and doesn't include what these changes would look and to who. It would have been more beneficial to include what relevance this was to each department for a more informative response. Involving the key staff in this process rather than a top down approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Staff reductions will save money but will service standards be maintained. Will higher unemployment across the authority cost more?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This is all very vague. A more detailed and itemised plan would need to be published on this before I could comment further. I think most staff work incredibly hard and are under pressure as it is without adding more to their workload, and this is not well considered. I am not a fan of externally contracted services. From experience, this has led to more problems than it solves at times.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Believe that the council already know what they want to do but are covering this up with fancy words.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is disingenuous to ask people to comment on such a broad proposal with far too little detail for anyone to give an opinion on - it constitutes tick box consultation. It is difficult to argue with the broad principle outlined but it very much depends on how it impacts on people - reducing staff can often mean that the only method of communication is online and in many organisations this causes much greater inefficiency/no help at all for the customer/client.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Has costing for training and integration of systems been taken into account. Prior personal experience has been that very often insufficient budget is committed to this.; Is this consolidation to be internally hosted systems, or, out sourcing to 3rd party cloud based providers.; What is the planned budget for these services over 3yrs, taking account of proposed savings.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The description of changes is vague. What business support functions would this include and what would be the extent of staff reduction. Within Social Work there are already shortages of Admin workers which impedes services from being delivered. Greater use of technology makes sense as it can certainly be more convenient, but I worry about the impact on more vulnerable/impaired/older individuals who may struggle with using technology.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Its very hard to make comments on this as the impact is not known at this time for customers, if you had written the proposed impact on the customer it might be easier to make comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	This description is unclear	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	There's not enough information about this to be able to understand the proposed changes and comment on them.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Does reduction in staff also include school staff? I see that schools are already struggling to fill roles.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	How many staff members would lose their job through this? A reduction in staff potentially means a reduction in services. Your staff are already stretched trying to provide the services with less numbers. ; Why source external contracts when it could be kept 'in house'. ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Think this could have been better worded to show what the changes would look like and be more user friendly. The majority of West Lothian may not fully understand the jargon. ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The above statement is difficult to respond to because it is so general and gives no examples of which services might be consolidated, which types of staff might be reduced in number, or which systems might be reduced in number within the internal business and financial support functions that are provided to council services. More detail is required before consulting with the public on their response to proposed changes.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I don't think that this is the best way to start a public survey! The paragraph above states the obvious and gives very little information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The survey wording is incomprehensible and will exclude significant numbers of citizens who will not be able to understand what I being proposed. Strongly suggest that the survey is re-written in the following ways:; 1. Proposals are put forward in plain English, avoiding jargon and public sector terminology.; 2. Engage a (non-public sector) copywriter to improve the clarity of the proposals.; 3. Explain how the estimated saving has been calculated.; 4. State the potential disadvantages of each proposal, as well as the potential benefits.; ; As it stands this consultation survey is not fit for purpose.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Not enough detail her to have any idea what this means for service users.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Without more specific info on the areas - I cannot comment on this section.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Is this cutting back on staff in schools? There isnt enough staff as there is.; How are we suppose to comment when it isnt clear!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	; Having carried out extensive service redesign activities at each stage of the cuts over the years, I struggle to visualise how this is possible. Stripping out staff from services and trying to maintain the same service levels is impossible and there needs to be honesty about having to do less with less.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Will staff numbers be reduced through retirement/ voluntary redundancies?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Modernising the council means less staff and less jobs. Why are we not given the figures for the cost of employing workers as a comparison? ; ; What happens to the old technologies?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Would this apply to schools? Teaching staff should be increased, not decreased, and increased use of technology ≠ instruction.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Nothing specific enough to comment on. Sounds like wishful thinking rather than a definite proposal.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	More info needed, which services are affected, what does redesign actually look like?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I feel unable to comment due to lack of clarity of what the proposals mean ie what is the impact on myself as a service user.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Insufficient detail on impact to make any assessment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reading this sounds fair and it is a substantial amount. ; ; If reducing staff will this mean voluntary redundancies?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Is this saving net of any write down of older technology and projects costs to set up new systems? Is the bulk of the saving from staff reduction? If so, how will you ensure that remaining staff do not have to take on additional work?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The comments are in the form of a series of questions
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Resources could be trimmed up and scaled down all the old draconian ideas need thrown out.; The waste of money in all areas is a disgrace the private sector would not have this.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It is not so clear what exactly involves with this but outsourcing some services are usually possibly reduce some cost but massive decrease of quality.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Any attempt to reduce staffing, given the current difficulties in some key and essential services ability to recruit staff would be narrow minded and ill thought and would put additional pressures on an already depleted and demoralised workforce. I believe council services are best delivered by the council workforce. I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	Reducing staff numbers will increase the amount of people needing support from the council and potentially sending more children into poverty when their parents loose their jobs	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	The language in the survey is not for the average people- it will put people off completing it or is this the idea?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	I have absolutely no idea what this means. Far too vague to understand and interpret what you are referring to	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	It's not clear from above where the savings will be found. Please consult with plain language instead of euphemisms.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1A Service Redesign, Integration and Modernisation	THEY DO NOT GIVE ENOUGH INFOATION TO MAKE VALID DECISIONS.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Ensuring that the management structure is efficient and well led will reduce any impact on service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It's understandable that cuts need to be made in this area, however, removing this layer of support could impact negatively on the service delivery if customer facing staff are not supported sufficiently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Only £500,00 from management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Hopefully top management and not reducing low level managers that could just be shifted to utilise more efficiently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reviewing management structures should be an integral part of service provision and should be done anyway not just to respond to cost crisis!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A reduction in mm is needed. Saw a manager showing someone exactly where to place a grit bin?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again appears currently to be too heavy organisation so streamlining needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Streamlined management structures are more effective, avoiding top heaviness in senior managers. If service structures are being realigned the management structure needs to be aligned accordingly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are far too many managers, some managers are managing teams of 2 or 3 people. While others manage teams of over 10.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A review of management who are not interested in effectively supporting staff/teams would be a bonus!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The tiers of these posts seem to be growing rapidly and need cut back.; At the top of the tree savings would be more beneficial to cutbacks.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	consolidation of management could be beneficial if it brings a more organic management structure with clear levels of responsibility and expectations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	On face value efficiency is a good thing, but if done wrong it simply delays responsiveness.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If this again means people losing their jobs, I would rather people are retrained to do a different role?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Supported, where services can be combined efficiently under one management arm then this should be actioned.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Nothing is mentioned about reducing management numbers but yet hands on staff that are already crying out for more staff are being affected directly yet again.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Although the above states that the council will ensure that the management structure continues to support effective delivery of council services - nothing is mentioned about reducing management numbers but yet hands on Staff are being affected directly yet again.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Definitely needed - less managers and more people on the ground. You need to look at the hierarchy - are there managers managing managers?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am happy that they are going to fulfill the requirements the staff are needing to keep a happy working environment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Share decision making - empowering managers to make operational decisions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Most are still working from home, you are not always able to contact someone. I think any changes can not effect the delivery of services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Having managers with too many fingers in too many pies doesn't work for anyone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Jobs for the boys council management will always employ family friends culture has been going on for years	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	All employees of the council who are involved in recruitment and selection decisions are trained to ensure the fair and effective recruitment decisions are taken in accordance with council policies and procedures.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too many managers - A L (redacted) said 5 between all staff and Chief Exec - currently I am in a chain of at least 7 maybe 8	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree that management efficiencies require reviewing to get the best result for the public i.e. any duplication slimmed down to save costs and perhaps the council is too many chief's in management positions opposed to the indians - seems more and more that management are all tied up with other things that there's not the time there used to be for issues staff require resolving - as not able to get on phone so emails have to sent for replies for example 'in a meeting' . Think overall there is too much time taken up in management for staff's annual / flexi leave etc that could be better spent on the real work in administering customer service. Has to be more all hands on deck in carrying out the work being done	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It is usually a case of too many people in top positions and lower level staff under pressure so agree streamlined management structure is key	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Less managers looking after more areas, as has been done in the education sector for years.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Has no direct impact to community but makes sense if there's the ability to spread accountability and decision making across departments. Would be keen to see this through natural movement of retiring or relocating staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Should not have effect (unless positive) on customer facing activities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	maybe if every time i see a council van the people in it could be working not skiving. and find a best practise for all jobs and do it we dont need pointless managers raking it in for fkall proper work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again restructure of supervisory /management positions as there is to many in most departments and are not needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There is a lack of detail to provide comment on. Reviewing and reducing management sounds fine to some, but given the level of existing demand on managers and staff it will create an increased pressure and burden.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduction in management numbers and roles must not be at the expense of ensuring performance is maintained.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Need to ensure succession planning, as many Managers are in the older age bracket, loss of knowledge and how do we attract/ retain younger staff, as we are unable to offer similar wages to external organisations	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	In order to support effective employee development, succession planning and to support reduction in costs of recruitment, adverts are often placed internally in the first instance. Where internal recruitment is not possible, then external appointments will be made. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Better save on managers than workers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Makes sense. Become a lean organisation and things typically work better. Decisions are made quicker meaning you become more proactive and less reactive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Effective delivery of all current services is a must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would only be worried in that less management may mean less support on weekly basis from management and less personal one to ones and annual reviews?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management demographics have changed and there may be a willingness amongst managers within the pensionable age groups to voluntarily leave the service creating both opportunity for others and restructure opportunities within service areas, this should maybe be explored.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management demographics have changed and there may be a willingness amongst managers within the pensionable age groups to voluntarily leave the service creating both opportunity for others and restructure opportunities within service areas, this should maybe be explored.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again as long as the changes to arrangements and management efficiencies are implemented equitably, plus the impact these changed arrangements have on the WLC customers are clear (to the customer) and practical (for the customer) then in principle, a saving of £0.5 million is welcome and in line with good management practice.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduce management, put more staff on front line to provide services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Council has too many in management and not enough workers on the ground by reducing management reduces costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There is often a drive to reduce management layers and increase spans of control. Beware though that individual managers are not so overloaded as to not be able to manage.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The departments are top heavy - the reduction of some of the more senior roles will fund more staff no.s on the ground to carry out the day to day tasks and have less of an impact on the level of service provided to the public	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Environmental Services and in particular "Roads" has too many layers of management and too many managers within that structure. 10 Superisors and 4 Roads officers to manage 50 workers. They also have a totally unnecessary "Planner" in addition to a "Senior Engineer" and department manager. In total, that's 17 managers directly in charge of 50 Road workers and that doesn't include Managers in post who are indirectly in charge. This insufficient business model is replicated in other departments too. It's really not that difficult to resolve.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as the efficiencies do not impact on actual public services and response times then of course inefficiency must be addressed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as these measures lead to a measurable increase in service quality as measured before any changes are made they have my support. Metrics would be essential in this case.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are areas in the council where management is top heavy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There will be managers that will be looking to retire so natural savings will occur.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Top heavy management structures are no longer acceptable. This must be streamlined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Focus on reducing/eliminating top-heavy management structures and greedy, bureaucratic tender processes that leave council departments forced to use contractors and suppliers which are often seriously overpriced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A flat management structure is desirable to cut costs at management levels rather than working staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Need forward thinking managers who will think outside the box and not continue with the excuse "that it has always been done like that"	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again makes sense, reducing the hierarchy and skill sharing across services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The management of the council has been lacking for many years now, clear those that are deadwood (of which there are many) and empower those that remain to actively manage and lead those employees that absolutely need to perform better themselves	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes, normally too much middle management, especially those that have been promoted or moved sideways to get rid of them without redundancy. Try listening to the staff on the ground, they know which managers work hard for them, the public and the council. Do not keep butt kisses!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good to see cuts to management are nearly half the cuts to the staff budget. In my limited exposure to council management, they provide an even poorer quality service than management in commercial businesses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It's fair enough getting rid of management however we need to understand fully what, where and how the money has been spent.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Depends on level what impact but you would hope that this isn't a case of just of removing the post and expecting their direct reports to take on the responsibility instead as is often the case.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Always worth reviewing although very much a balancing act in relation to service delivery. Some areas are more management heavy than others and there always a need. Managing expectations is also very important in this area. Often the message is trying to offer more for less. I feel a more appropriate message should be around what is the best possible service that we can provide with a streamlined approach. Already Management and Staff are expected to be a jack of all trades and this causes significant pressures resulting in high sickness absence and low morale.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Why are there so many people in the council receiving salaries over £100,000. A review of those jobs being cut should include the impact each job title has on the improvement of the lives of the citizens of West Lothian. I'm sure that those on higher salaries have less impact than those people on lower salaries, who are at the forefront of providing services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again why is a savings of £500,000 made anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, great idea but not an excuse to shed staff and move responsibilities around. It must be part of a larger, coordinated plan.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Surely looking at salaries at the high end of councils should be one of the first things to be looked at	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Makes sense but does the saving include the redundancy bill? If not the figure is inaccurate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too many unnecessary managers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Less managers and more people doing the jobs - is just common sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	That's nice you are also sacking some big bosses as well as lower paid workers. ^sarcasm*	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A good place to start	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I'm sure the savings could be increased if more upper management were removed rather than middle management, as I assume this is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	See above, effective delivery becomes even more important.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are a number of senior management including councillors that could go. Employing more actual workers. Too many box ticking holding back the real work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No one should feel like their job is at risk but some departments I have no idea what all the managers within that service do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is a chance to modernise how the Council is run, with old-fashioned micro-management styles being phased out in favour of a trust model.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Also sounds like a step in the right direction	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I'm pretty sure that in this current climate there could be a lot of savings made on the very top tier of the council. The tone of the survey so far is staff cuts but I'm pretty sure it's not at the level where more money is saved through the higher salaries.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Within many teams in the council, there are a lot of levels of management, which seems unnecessary compared to other local authorities where there is one manager who supports various staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes cut the managers were possible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree in principle with the review of management arrangements but disappointed there is no further detail on what this exactly means.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Can we please have more managers who have experience of the job roles and service they are managing so that staff have confidence in that person knowing what they are managing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Do we need to employ people on inflated salaries to make these decisions? What exactly is their expertise?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Perhaps streamlining of the management personnel could help. Are there too many managers on inflated salaries?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is where huge savings could be made. Looking at other proposals which have an impact on lower paid staff and a huge amount of services aimed to support children, senior management could and should be looked at. Huge wages and pension contributions go hand in hand with these posts. Cutting these roles make considerable savings with actual minimal impact on how the council functions. Senior management and executives in all public services are always left untouched. Justifying these roles will save millions and no one would notice any difference.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sack the top paid management who do nothing but waste money on changing road signs etc, crax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would agree with this. Being more effective in management will certainly save costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I find the council workers, those you are in the civic center are not the most efficient. They come up with procedures and policies that take time and are not the best use of my time as a teacher. They do not consider the work-load of people like me but busy themselves with ideas that are not creating wealth.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This makes sense. Far too many managers and high paid jobs in the health and social care partnership. Loads of new jobs in health replicating roles in council. Does not make sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Doing an amazing job 👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is a very fluffy statement without much detail. Decision making within the Council is already pretty slow (see planning application stages). There are already elements that could be drastically improved.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I imagine as in many organisations there are too many managers paid large salaries and not enough staff below to actually provide the best services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	With reference to the note above I am quite astonished to discover that the Council does indeed have a Management structure in place. In my experience there has been no individual who takes the responsibility of a Manager. The "buck stops at the top" after all. Too many Chiefs who have no control over their Indians in my opinion.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There needs to be enough managers to provide support and direct staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Having less tiers in the management structure will certainly save money and ensure that everyone is working to the best of their ability and being productive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The organisation doesn't need to be too heavy with managemet. Efficient teams of capable staff will ensure work is completed with supervision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This seems reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again streamlining exercise ensure quality of service is not impacted.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More should be cut in this area and less on the above!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sometimes feel to many chiefs and not enough indians therefore things don't run smoothly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This must be a fundamental aspect of any service redesign and digital transformation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think that it is important to ensure that managers can be present and available to make decisions, take initiative and support their team.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Removing many management levels allows information to travel between the customer to the management much quicker than layers of management going through red tape.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	How effective will it be to leave management levels as is with a reduced workforce. With so many 'managers' in the mix normally no one is accountable if things fall behind or don't get done. I think a more directly involved manager and a structured workforce, with less time wasted in countless 'meetings' would save more time and money in the long run	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I'm not sure what the total spend on management is in WLC - in the NHS it is now 48% of every pound received from the taxpayer. I'm hoping that this reduction in the council will mean the figures are a lot closer to say 15 - 18% of total budget.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would imagine there are levels of management that could be refined. Care would need to be taken not to overload the ones that are left to a degree that impacts their ability to do their job.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as management structure continues to be appropriate and robust then this is acceptable and necessary	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agreed. If the work and plans are efficient and only need to do and not nice to do tasks are carried out this will save money and time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If this can be achieved with minimum impact on front line services and without putting too much pressure on remaining managers, then it may be a necessary evil.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The council is over managed and spends too much in this area. Cuts here are a good idea, and doubtless could be even deeper.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too many people promoted to high wage positions that don't deserve to be there. Slimline the management to ensure those in those managerial positions give value for money, work hard, deserve to be there and are worth their high salaries.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	£500k if you're doing an org design change I'd expect more but I suppose this is net of VR	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I'm sure more money could be saved at management level. Too many managers and not enough ground staff. Stop trying to change the world and just 'make do' for a while. If it's not broke, don't fix it! And save a fortune.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	this appears to be a sensible approach, however as before job loses are never desirable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, hard to comment when no details given. A cut to management level is normally worthwhile though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Fantastic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Flattening your structure is a good thing and hopefully empowers employees to make decisions and improve services. Make sure the development and effective management of your people is not lost if you're making your teams larger.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Have less managers at higher costing, stop expenses doe stuff that are claimed on.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	So that means reducing the management and realigning departments so that one manager is responsible for several departments. This will put pressure on all staff as tasks will need to be reassigned to lower level staff from management level, it is definately better than losing key staff as mentioned above but will cause problems just the same	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	To many bosses, workers leaving and no replacement being started	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This sounds great on paper but please ensure this is not to the detriment of staffing and teams working at an already strained pace.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Maybe less management is needed to save money and more workers on the front line services so service does not suffer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good management is a vital part of service delivery, but WLC does seem to be top heavy in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Some management savings may be needed however as per above savings could be made in other ways rather than job loss.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sounds a good idea. Often there seem to be too many meetings which take away time from the day job which just seem to tick boxes and not achieve much	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree with statement. No other comment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I support efficiencies in management arrangements. There is often in organisations too many layers of management, where delegated authority could effectively make decisions quickly and within agreed criteria.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Whilst cutting back on over-managed areas should be priority, i ask that within the current employment environment that do not loose experienced, knowledgeable employees with years of valuable time spent, who cannot be replaced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I feel this could easily be achieved. The management structure of WLC is still way too top heavy, and could easily be made more efficient and cost effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It is vital that the council chooses carefully their management teams as they will decide how efficient services will operate in the long run. Their role is key to the delivery of essential services and that these services will be available to all who require them which is so important.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Do feel there has been a lot of jobs within social policy that post / jobs not been rejected and more added pressure and added tasks to staff who are there	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As advised, there are too many management levels in the council that is top heavy. If you empower your staff to make decisions you will see the need for the many management levels decrease. However, my experience is that the management will keep those who simply are 'yes men' and remove those who are challenging. If you want to make a difference, then ensure that your management will be those who have the skills to lead and empower services, that embody the skills that they expect in their own management teams, whilst being able to and supported in challenging those at the top. There are too many that stay quiet when the staff are in turmoil and too many still that report that there are no problems when the cracks are like canyons.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduce management by offering redundancy/voluntary severance.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management savings/efficiencies is a positive aspect. However, for certain areas such as education/social care it is imperative that management savings are not made by reducing down the number of Head Teachers or Social Care Managers. Nor by increasing their remits (e.g. managing more than one school) as such efficiencies are more than offset by the increased costs generated with travel between sites and also result in a poorer service for the end-user.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Most management positions are wasteful; most employees can work with little to no management. I notice there is no mention of cutting MANAGERS, just other jobs and services. Cut the managers, save the world.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If decision making involved less people, this would speed up response times.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Replace the current management with someone who doesn't throw money away on short term, pointless changes. The amount of money wasted through covid on traffic measures, road structures and daft social distancing signs was incredible. People are mostly not stupid and widening pavements was unnecessary. Common sense needs to return.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There should be a better re-alignment of services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The council is very management heavy. We need more workers and less management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management is top heavy. There are not enough levels between the shop floor and the managers. Distribute the responsibilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are various management structures throughout the council which are long overdue for a review. In my own department, management is you heavy and it appears that posts are just filled when someone leaves, rather than having a root and branch review of whether the management post is still required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I already have 16 staff reporting directly to me so I dont think this can apply in my situation. Although i can see in other dept there seem to be as many managers and supervisors as there are staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Senior management grades and staff numbers need seriously reviewed. In planning and economic development there are far too many managers, often adding no value to service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Positive; To be effective this measure will require individual staff to take more responsibility for managing themselves and their daily workload. A significant burden on management lies in the manual processes required to transfer performance information into the performance management system (e.g. the manual copying of sickness absence data extracted from the payroll system into Pentana). It would be worthwhile considering separation of performance reporting from performance management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	To many managers with very specific job roles/requirements with a lack of cross over with other managers. Reducing the number of hierarchy levels would help spread actual useful staff resources to the required departments.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No issue with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Remove meaningless managerial posts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree, too many levels in management - i.e An Officer, A Line Manager, A Manger just a level above a Line Manager ????, A Head of Service then a Director - a lot of money to be saved here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again benefit the cross the council strategy and streamlining people's position	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Further savings could be made here - there are a lot of managers in the council when what is required are more on-the-ground workers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are likely to be levels of management which can be reduced or dispersed into other roles but this must happen without huge increases in workload of already pressured staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It's all very well streamlining management, however, what it is creating is a larger chasm of disconnect between the front line and those sitting behind a desk.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The focus here is getting a structure were first line workers/customer facing staff are able to do more of the work, and that manager spend their time studying the processes and systems as they are working in real time and take responsibility for improving performance. This should mean more management resource is focussed on the delivery of successful services, and management resource that is further removed from the delivery of work/services is where the savings need to be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	in building services there's too many managers and people on management secondments.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, only if their roles become truly redundant.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agreed to many senior managers, efficiencies are required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Absolutely yes - streamline management, employ true leaders and make decisions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Unable to comment on the management structure as this is unknown to the public, but I'm sure everyone would be in support of efficiency.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduce managers an others work log .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would agree with a slimmed-down management structure should this not impact overall performance	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Maybe think more about how much management is payed, really ridiculous sums of money is not needed for a manager position	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This seems appropriate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reducing senior managers in education department such as QIO	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are a lot of SMT management in schools that are non-teaching, if the numbers were reduced this would surely save money and have more focus on teaching staff and PSW to support learning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Feel there are too many Cleaner Coordinators, Kitchen Coordinator and FM Coordinator. You never see them or can contact them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I work in Edinburgh within sheltered housing which didn't have managers but a team leader, who basically managed the place while the manager was at HQ and from time to time would visit his/ her units.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes, this cost saving of £0.5M is needed, please proceed with these changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I suppose this ties in with 1a. If staff numbers are reduced then less managers will be required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are too many managerial posts, you need more people on the ground.I can	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Always in favour of efficiencies at management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would have thought significantly larger savings could be made here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	May need to review all this to make sure there are no duplication between departments, which would save some costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	remove unnecessary levels of management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would imagine that the council, like so many other organisations are top heavy at management/leader level. Start there!.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The council like many other businesses are top heavy with chiefs. Sitting in their ivory towers while the workers struggle to do the work and keep afloat. This may be a good thing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As oer most businesses always too many managers so cuts here shouldn't be a problem.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A reduction in management is always a good thing to cut cost, but this must be achieved without a reduction in service. Some managers could oversee more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	One often needs more management not less, when implementing a significant change programme	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Streamlining management is an effective cost reducing measure. Funds need better spent in education and safety.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again reviewing the management structure with in the council is very overdue as this is top heavy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management structures are a massive part of public un-trust. People are always interested in how many managers there are in departments, what staff they manage and what they are paid.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	In my opinion, the council, like many organisations, is very top heavy with managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management structure could be looked at.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Structural reorganisation should always be considered, appropriate ratios of staff to management is most efficient however experience counts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management is usually top heavy, this is the area which would benefit staff cuts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	To many chiefs!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Higher management need to manage better or take a pay cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would say reducing management roles is a good way to save.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Basically less managers sitting at their desks and more workers on the services. We do need managers to oversee what needs done but we also desperately need more council workers out on the floor so to speak. Hi	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There is always room to improve management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Looking at management restructure is a good thing. If it still provides all the council services and statutory duties.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The devil will be in the detail of this. I presume that in almost all cases the current management structure has already been evaluated and deemed to be appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Consolidation of middle management and top executive posts of excessive salaries should be a sine qua non for all Councils until they are inevitably abolished.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as decisions can be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	cut the big bosses you dont need three or four bosses for department like the roads	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	smaller schools may have the capacity to streamline their management team but larger schools will not.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Managment structure would be a good way f dealing with savings aslong as the workload isnt left to high leading to stress and absence.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are too many different management teams within the council, the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing, realigning teams, if done correctly, will save money and time wasted.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Focus on management to remove unnecessary trade and duplication.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Do we have too many managers?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are far too many managers/heads of departments on over generous pay compared to those who do the work. A cut in pay for those remaining & more accountability.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If people are working from home; is it efficient and productive? If it is, can the council infrastructure be reduced?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Disappointing that the savings targets in this area are so low, it comes across that you are not really trying terribly hard to make savings in the management space.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	£500k appears a paltry amount. Surely there is scope for significant management consolidation and restructuring across the council. £500K is achievable sure through natural wastage and not back filling vacant management posts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cut salaries from top to save more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	All staff management included should be included in saving measures as the structure of the Council should not be top heavy. It is fine to have managers making decisions, but you also need staff to conduct the everyday work tasks.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	All in favour of less managers and more workers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Current management does appear to be over inflated in comparison to lower level staff. This should be carefully considered before increasing wages due to merging jobs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management is important but if you strip the front line bare of knowledgeable staff then no management structure in the world is going to be successful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	What does this actually mean? There are lots of ineffective management arrangements already identified? I would have hoped by now that you had sorted this.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Look seriously at the management structure and duplication of roles in all departments.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Do this but encourage the communication between departments means you work smarter not harder	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is a good area to concentrate on efficiency	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Fewer managers needed and more staff actually doing the jobs is the way to go.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Take out the second layer of management and split the work up and down.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A lean management structure will improve accountability and remove blockages in processes. This should not affect customer facing roles though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management streamlining to place a number of years ago to reduce the layers between Chief Exs and staff but various new positions have been created since then and increased the layers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am sure alot of staff would welcome changes to suit services. More Managers need to be involved and listened to and not only included when decisions have been made. Motivation of staff very important but some Managers so demotivated themselves its hard to motivate others.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	You do not need 2 heads of education and 1 head of social policy- you need 1 head of integrated children's services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree that the management structure could be reviewed as there are in some cases to many levels and posts for this level just seem to appear where it would be more efficient to add staff at an operational level. It would add to less confusion in decision making levels.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management levels need reduced and streamlined, far too many seniors and managers and not enough frontline staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are possibly some management positions where the salary might be better place employing 2 people on a lower salary who would achieve more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as services are not negatively impacted this seems fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Large salaries of Management eg Education could be reduced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Streamline senior management level	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am in support of re structuring management within the upper levels of the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reducing the number of managers and giving staff more powers is a great idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Seems sensible to review the internal processes to see if efficiencies can be used. This option provides no detail of the likely impact on a west lothian resident, therefore very difficult to provide meaningful feedback.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think cutting down on management is needed there are too many bosses at desks	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, we should be downsizing management who earn the most money, and keep the feet on the ground performing the service activities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Some managers are a waste of money so done aspects of this is probably a good thing however having a head teacher over 2 or more schools is not good as school communities are suffering.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Review the need for so many members of the Senior council executives, I'm ok with a Provost and CEO but the others can go as they in my opinion are only there to get their photo in the press to try and look good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sometimes too many managers and not enough workers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduced human resources always leads to reduced outcomes for young people. Again, consider cutting more of the bureaucracy within the Civic Centre (who take up a significant share of the council budget as evidenced through the budget structure).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Any duplication of roles probably best area to target...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	My understanding was that managers were to have at least 5 direct reports, our own structure was changed to reflect this. However this does not appear to be the case for many managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Council should consider reviewing amalgamating services.; Council should also make it more attractive for council staff to leave by offering enhanced payments above the contracted/legal minimum	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	We need the management to be more productive, there are sometimes too many managers in some of the services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management structure is important to ensure staff are supported, but if a manager happens to leave/retire consideration should be made as to whether the post is required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Less management structure more people who can deliver actual services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Would rather see the £95000 taken from the top ten salaried council employees.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reducing managers and putting extra work on remaining managers will effect safety and efficiency whilst adding too much stress effecting their mental health and causing people to be off sick or leaving post which is counter productive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	My post has not been reviewed for a significant number of years. I am often given additional work to do which has increased in volume and size. Other posts have been reviewed and seem to be significantly higher grade for little or no management of staff. This should also be taken into consideration when reviewing management arrangements as well as volume of work!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Support this as long as still enough staff to deliver services and more junior officers do not get overloaded	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This was done before and some of the positions have recreated. Need a good workforce plan and understanding of the business need, to enable management positions to be cut without experience and expertise leaving the organisation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This seems a small number and perhaps there can be more efficiencies in this area	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sometimes too many managers and not enough people on the ground working to provide real council services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A rationalisation of management seems sensible, but I think it will be important for this to be coupled with a reduction in bureaucracy/ decision making by committee, through re-establishing a culture of accountability in management posts. I don't understand why this is not integrated into the 1A opportunity outlined above. A service redesign will naturally create opportunities for organisation redesign and removal of non-essential roles from the new organisation	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management teams in my opinion are bloated and would benefit -in addition to the cost implications- from being more streamlined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If this means to reduce the number of management graded positions, I think this is well worth the savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Less red tape is a must!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	management structure is weak, managers are currently doing too many tasks not allowing them to manage the process, the projects or the staff. It needs to have a structure and clearly defined realistic roles and responsibilities with managers having the correct skill sets.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Tighter control of just what is priority.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is not really specific enough to comment on but again happy if this mean efficiency!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think this seems like a sensible measures	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree with this suggestion.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	These are good changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Another great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am happy with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sounds good. Too many 'leaders ' in the council, need more doers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agreed. There should be opportunities to consolidate how some services are managed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sounds reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think reviews are always needed, to ensure we are providing an efficient service to the public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as services are not negatively impacted this seems fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Seems a sensible cost reduction	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Totally agree with that	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Why wait. Just get on with it now	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Absolutely, this is an appropriate way for savings to be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cost saving is a very attractive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Completely understand and agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	GOOD IDEA	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not enough, target could be higher	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The creation of the new HO at Whitehill was overdue and I would imagine allow management and service realignment to ensure considerable savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sensible plans	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes streamline too many folk trying to do the same job	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Just achieve the £500,000 saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Absolutely- reduce middle management rather than frontline workers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If it is needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Do away with non essential services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sounds okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Easily achieved	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This sounds like a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Further redesign of functions makes financial sense but this requires individuals with high levels of skill to achieve successfully. Having the right people, with the right skills will be essential to enable this activity and there is a question mark over whether such skill exists within the local authority. There is a real risk of excessive workload for those in new amalgamated roles leading to absences and further weakening service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This sounds like a positive plan.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good plan	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Making the top leaner makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree this should be done	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes save what is the cost to put this in place	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sounds like a good way to save money without impacting community provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree with this proposal as long as there continues to be leadership and direction	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Efficient decisions making sounds positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	yes I agree- too many manager and middle managers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Thsts fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes, efficiencies great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good ideas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Happy with this one	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Always looking for efficiencies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above . In the private sector the modernisation of the organisation is common place and is done on a regular cycle as part of a ceo's job. That is why they get the largest salaries.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It would make sense to integrate services that are closely related	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council places significant emphasis on effective internal and external integration and will continue to look for opportunities to integrate systems or processes to achieve efficiencies. The council has an existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	So removal of management posts is what this means?; Agree this should be reviewed, however this needs to be done carefully to ensure service delivery and remaining staff support. Succession planning, career progression and roles and responsibilities need to be considered otherwise there is a risk that WLC removes management posts which are required to ensure good service delivery and governance leaving a workforce which is stressed and the management remaining cannot undertake management duties as they are doing another role "actual service delivery", which would result in staff leaving and a brain drain from WLC. Management structure needs to be reflective of responsibilities and future council requirements as well as considering salaries to compete with other councils, public sector and private sector to be an attractive employer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The West Lothian Council structure is to bureaucratic. In every sector from education, housing, social work, financial services, HR function etc. This has the effect of having too many managers, supervisors and nowhere near enough front line workers. A balancing of chiefs to front line workers is needed. Along with a streamline of paperwork being completed in duplicate for no good end.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A reduction of middle management, as well as pay cuts to upper management to help alleviate budget pressures would be the best option. A smaller distance from the top to the bottom will allow changes and feedback to be heard and delivered more rapidly with greater ownership.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Please looks as management spans and layers. Producers vs. Non producers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management is always too heavy - you need more frontline workers so if you can make saving fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Any changes to structure or services needs to be realistic and not simply a way to lose individuals or important part of the services. There cannot be the expectation for services to have less and achieve the same targets and outcomes they once did. If there is an opportunity for streamlining without those factors being affected then it would be beneficial.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Why is the review of management arrangements only going to be cut by 500,000 but education is 5million? Surely education is a priority and should have the smallest cuts possible? Will there be a cut in the number of managers, will those earning large salaries (I.e those "at the top") have their position and salaries reviewed?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Removal of unnecessary management in business has no impact	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I believe at present the management system is over subscribed and reductions in management staff would seem appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think this should be looked at more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think streamlining management would free up more funds to support with education recovery, in the aftermath of the pandemic. Having fewer management positions that don't deal with people at a face to face or telecommunication level ensures messages are more consistent and that the chain of command is smaller between the people working on the ground and those making the decisions that directly affect them and the consumers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management layers have been introduced over the past decade but it should be determined if they are bringing value and having a positive impact. If not then they should be considered for reduction.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More people doing and helping would be good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Certain departments could merge saving on salaries and duplication work/projects.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The structure of the council has too many managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are a number of managers 'moonlighting' and using Council resources to do so. Instigate fraud investigation and sack them. There are too many managers not working their contracted hours. Reduce the overall number	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management level needs to be appropriate skilled and sized to run the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Dont need too many managers that get paid too much money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The Council is full of accountants and people with ideas, these need to be reduced and actual workers employed to deal with issues on the ground.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Also many more savings to be made than £500,000 here. Many departments have an extra tier of management that could be missed out and reports could be made directly to more senior managers. Qualifying managers (55+) could be let go during restructures voluntarily giving them enhanced packages to their retirement age. This would save millions not half a million reduce the elderly workforce and make the business more modern thinking and adaptable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Most areas need to review their management structures and use the savings to feed downwards increasing a quality workforce.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	managers remit need to be reviewed to ensure they are accountable for what they are employed to do along with team leaders. If managers took more responsibility for the services they delivered ensuring efficiency and effectiveness this alone would lead to reductions in costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Savings could be made by offering voluntary redundancy/early retirement making packages up to retirement age. Pretty sure this would entice staff especially long service and savings would probably exceed £500,000.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management structures have to be evaluated and considered in light of need and workload. Too many managers is not an effective model, but increased workload on a limited number of people is not healthy and can lead to reductions in productivity and efficiency.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Efficiencies are a great place to start.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Fine, provided staff who are absorbing extra duties or taking on more responsibility are appreciated and rewarded.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	if a true saving can be made without reducing or affecting any public services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This also makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are more managers and heads of service than staff. Perhaps reducing the top heavy structure would be a good cost saving exercise	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Look at your top tier who warm lot lot more and do little compared to your hard working middle management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There does need to be the ability to make decisions quickly if necessary and also not overload tge remaining managers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduce Management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	In roads dept we have half the road worker's we had 5 year's ago but more staff and managers and chargehands roughly 54 road worker's and nearly 20 management team?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More people actioning the actions, less managers please.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	People will always advocate for less money spent on management, if there are true savings to be made, that's amazing, but not at the cost of People doing the jobs that need to be done losing their's.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cut the amount of managers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I believe some streamlining of management could be achieved and result in savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are currently too many layers of management which makes decision making and responsive action very difficult. Resource realignment is a good approach but simply slimming down the management structure and adding more responsibility for fewer managers is not the answer. This approach should take account of the scope of different workstreams to ensure manageable workloads for managers. Previous restructures have resulted in fewer managers at higher pay grade - extra money does not equate to extra time or resource needed to manage multiple workstreams that do not align to meet cohesive outcomes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduce managers as there are too many. Too many managers are there to make the council look good, and this is throughout the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The same comments as part one, a reduction in charge hand/supervisors is needed as there are far too many at the moment doing the same amount of work as it used to only take 2 people. Drivers of crews could take on the role of charge hand for their crew and take on new responsibilities if needed this would reduce the number of supervisors or charge hands needed left in the depot sitting around doing nothing while being paid more than the crews out doing the actual essential work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	to many managers and not enough bin men, cut management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Streamline layers of management in every area of the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cut back on the management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Rather than reducing staff on the front line it makes sense to reduce management on high salaries or reduce the high salaries!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Star eh how reducing the most expensive employees has less of an impact. Less management are needed to make decisions that are made. Remember the. Waste of money on covid street changes and bike lanes. Stupid decisions made that cost money wasted	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good managers are needed for successful teams. A restructure would be beneficial.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	do you actually need as much management as you have? Is there a way to use technology to cover some of this work?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The management structure to support delivery of services must be robust enough to reduce negative impact on services for the public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think Management should be streamline - can WLC benchmark from other local authorities or private companies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management doesn't seem to be affect the same as workers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Feel there could be more efficiencies found in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management is probably the best place to make savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The current management structure is far to top heavy within the council I've been told, I believe the the structure must be adjusted or reduced while maintaining and still manage if the service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is sorely needed within the council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, good if it's done with consultation and realistic assessment of workloads for existing staff/managers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This seems like a sensible approach but needs to be combined with a commercial competitive approach to the appointment of managers in the first place. Jobs should be allocated on best qualified not based on time served.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Hopefully the management restructuring will not leave West Lothian workers unsupported while doing their jobs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	You could save a lot more by giving the people who want to retire early their packages.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too many managers especially within Customer Services Teams. Neighbourhood, team, SDO, SSO. This could drastically be reviewed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	In this instance I would say we need more Indians and not more chiefs, the most support is needed at the front line and delivery of the Council, clever thinking and proper redistribution of duties could be a positive, but in more and more instances we see too many at the top with big wage packets and not enough investment in the staff doing the work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Why not cut the high paid council officials that alone could save a fortune	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A restructure of the council needs to happen. The phrase "too many chiefs" comes to mind	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I guess this about removing 'layers' of bureaucracy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management structures should be reviewed regularly and not only for cost saving efforts ! A lot of managers within the council are not effective and some are not even visible a lot of the time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cut the amount of management positions within the council the workforce is reducing but the management positions seem to be increasing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sounds good but please ask the coal face workers about decision making as not all managers are aware of the work their employees do and often make decisions that hinder rather than help.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree with a fundamental review of management roles and responsibilities. However, I would only seek to change or rationalise where there is a business case rather than a more severe cut to management just to save money. Management has a key role in delivery, both strategic and operational (where necessary) and in prudent financial management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	We have to concentrate on essential services and streamline others	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as the daily running and standards do not slip again. Over the last 5 to 10 years the area in which I live has reduced so many services and now relies heavily on volunteers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	All for management cut back if it means there can be more workers doing the actual work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, too many "managers" promoted beyond their capabilities and is there an indication that some may have insufficient pride and commitment to their work that they may be reluctant to work harder, longer and more efficiently. Does this go right to the top?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The management structure is too top heavy, services should be integrated ie one Head of Education and a lower management level to support HoS	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	management efficiency should be optimised a standard within public service organisations but it is imperative to make sure that the management goals are properly balanced between business, employee and customer needs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management are usually pretty useless in most organisations, staff are quite able to organise themselves. Fill your boots.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Think, as in every business there is too many managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree so long as the management can manage the increased load and it doesn't lead to redundancies not filled as a result of operating too light.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Each level of management needs to be constantly monitored and measured against its efficiency, necessity and productivity. Too many levels is not efficient	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Need to make sure savings are maintained and this isn't done then realise still needed as that will cost more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, can't really argue with this. 'Resource re-alignment' strikes me as a good approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good to reduce management as probably paid to do nothing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The full management structure needs to be reviewed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Perhaps if there was less higher end salaries at the management level there would be a reduced need to lose lower level staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If this is to happen, then management roles and responsibilities should be made very clear as often issues can get passed around as no-one takes responsibility for dealing with it. Management should be more accessible than they currently are.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not really sure what you mean by 'management arrangements' and 'efficiencies' often means losing staff but if this is about more effective meetings, more effective communication, fewer authorisations steps (without compromising safety/quality) internally etc then that's all to the good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	At times it can feel there are too many managers within certain areas, what may be beneficial is having assistant managers who can then support managers by taking on additional responsibilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think the Council is management heavy. There are definitely savings options by cutting some of the layers of management. For this to work however, you need the right people and not people who have risen to their level of incompetence	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good forward thinking managers are the salvation ...people who embrace the e systems and new ways of workingnot simply old fogies who always want to sit at meetings for hoursmeetings about meetings ...kinda like " ferrygate ,"	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Ensure this can be achieved without councillors expecting too much of other staff. Think reality needs to be service reduction can't keep; Asking people for more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is good, stripped down management makes for quicker decisions	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am hoping that management will also be slimmed down. There is nothing more falling than management being too heavy. I am sure that will not be the case but I had to mention it as I have sent through changes like these in my career.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This saving doesn't seem proportionate in comparison to the above saving of front line worker reduction. Given management are paid much larger sums in the first place.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sounds like a plan that any modern business would implement when there is a budget deficit. WLC should be no different	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management needs scaling down, jobs for the boys is crippling finances	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If there is no significant detriment to managerial capacity and how the council departments work under a new management structure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	cut some of the bosses	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If this equates to less managers and more doers then again sounds reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	i feel that there are too many managers and to do away with some and streamline the management team would be a good way to achieve this without it impacting on too many people	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	cut the big pay checks for too much is taken from the people you need to do the work to support and i think the government's right to buy was a bad mistake to take away from the councils	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Get shot of some of the big wigs. Do we need all of them? Probably now, however getting rid of them shouldn't mean that others at a lower pay do their full roles.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Stripping out layers of management and flattening the structure further makes sense financially but often causes significant issues with workload and pay not matching remit demands.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduce number of management roles	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Look at each service and decide how many managers are really needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There needs to be accountability across all services with differing levels required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Consolidation of management heavy areas of service. More rigorous hiring process to minimise the need for such prolific oversight and high levels of management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Wage structure could be looked at, as big chief always on too much money as the bottom of the wage structure is obscene as in most companies nowadays.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If reducing staff in other areas, should be in this area too	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The managerial team could be slimmed down and made more efficient.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Top heavy with management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Have a close look at managerial and supervisory roles - where could they be synergised to be more effective and allow significant savings? Too often "on the ground" roles are taken away with a negative result on customers and not much impact in savings. It is the high earning jobs which require scrutiny in 2022 thanks to the growing ethos and practice of jobholders roles having devolved responsibilities and those involved carrying these out effectively without the high level of supervision/management of days gone by.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree you should look at the management structure, too many layers that could be reduced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think there seems to be a lot of middle management that was never needed before!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Flatten management structure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If you can do this without any reduction of service, it would be good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Like most businesses there are probably too many management roles costing more than the hard worker at the front of house	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I'm pretty sure there is not a need for the amount of managers there is in position. it's management of time that can be improved upon perhaps by moving workloads	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too many managers especially in Education. Head Teachers being seconded to Civic Centre development posts with minimal impact on schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree....although some of the higher executives could go rather than the management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	less managers usually good but only if it is very clear who is responsible for what and that they remain in contact with all staff etc (ie not just the ones that they were used to overseeing)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too many managers, not enough front line staff, I read recently about the homeless waiting times, it was disappointing that the blame was being laid at the door of the officers who are described as off work sick or have left, did no one think to ask what is management doing about the situation. I imagine these were the same staff who worked throughout the pandemic dealing with homeless people, should they not be praised instead of public published criticism.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Less time spent in unnecessary meetings and more time being monitored on performance while doing the job.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too many managers and not enough staff doing the job.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our employees regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel employees in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It is impossible to think that this would not happen periodically even without budget squeezes, there does not seem to be an issue here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management structures need to remain fit for purpose. Service area knowledge can be extremely important to retain in the long run.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, important not to overload individuals, or leave them exposed or vulnerable, further down the Council's hierarchy. Changing services and re-aligning resources by necessity requires competent experienced managers to oversee and take responsibility.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Keep all work in house to enable proper council control	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Streamline the full management structure and ensure they actually provide value for money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Governance should definitely be reviewed and continuance of current governance arrangements dependent on proven and measurable improvements attributable to the governance function. Delegation of responsibility down the management structure should be implemented based on positive delivery of previous outcomes against targets. Targets should be set at the outset of monitoring periods and performance indicators should be just that, measures, and should never be conflated with targets.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I feel middle management cuts are a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	WLC need to stop introducing more middle management. In Education alone too many Head Teachers are being moved to Civic Centre to take up Head of this Head of that, Then staff moved into their school as acting HTs. Increasing staff levels and wasting money. Why do we need another level in Civic centre? are managers there not capable of doing their jobs?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Need to make sure any changes don't mean more pressure on remaining people	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I agree as long as it's the department need a manager and is a big enough to warrant one	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management structure should reflect best practice to deliver council services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If you reduce salaries of those people who are supposed to managing things who do more harm than good you could make a massive saving. Put the money further down the line to the people bursting their backside every day getting paid pennies!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not a lot to argue against here if you can do it so be it ; Management tiers in Departments should be three at a maximum	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If less staff, does the management structure need to remain the same? Surely reducing staff includes management also.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	there are too many management levels yet when you need manager help they aren't available	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Less managers would save costs 1 manager for 4 people is definitely a waste of resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reducing staff numbers in these areas should be looked looked at in line with any reductions in other areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The structure of the council should be reviewed and opportunities to streamline functions taken.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good idea - could this saving be increased through use of voluntary severance?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	While supportive in principle of this approach, there requires to be an effective management and governance structure so that teams continue to receive appropriate guidance and direction. Aware that some functions already struggle to recruit staff to positions and this could be further exacerbated through this efficiency measure.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	there always seems to be more chiefs than Indians.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management organisation should be streamlined in preference to front-line services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Get rid of middle management, and stop contributing shameful amounts of money to employees pensions!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management should be trimmed back as their are too many managers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	unnecessary management positions should be scrapped, if you have 2 managers working at 50% these should be combined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Whilst having a top heavy management structure is never good, it is paramount to the success of an organisation that the right people remain the the right roles. Otherwise, there is no structure, no decisions are being made or worse the wrong decisions being made, which ultimately costs more in the long run	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Less layers of management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Grounds maintenance is top heavy with management and other higher grades.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It is often felt there are too many managers and not enough though has gone into the everyday effect on those in the lower ranks	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	review of Management arrangements will tie in with 1A.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If reading correctly this implies reducing levels of management, so flattening the structure more. This would seem a sensible approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Am very happy with whatever the council decides to do. Very happy with all the ideas that the council is bringing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This seems good on paper however I would want assurances that as management structure was reduced that risks were still managed. This is a significant concern and given that the savings are "only" £500k this may not be a good saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above - also think about succession planning	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The council embarked on a management restructure as part of a previous consultation which developed the 5 levels of management from the Chief Executive, any further attempts may have an impact on service delivery. I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I see a nascent review necessary as long as an effective complaints process is maintained.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A reduction/reorganisation in the management will definitely have a saving - as long as no services are lost	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Scaling back management could be a possibility if some are not required in the same way now but again instead of having no job a pay cut or another job withing council with less pay to save money could be offered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	You can definitely make managers responsible for more departments so decrease the number needed that makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management needs to beabe to step in wherever	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reduce the amount of managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cut middle management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am sure there will be more money that could be cut from management costs, It would be good to see your management structures now and what is being presented as future management models in relation to the savings here, this is small in comparison to what is being cut elsewhere at the forefront of public services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are always too many managers and senior managers in roles in any establishment. Wherever roles can be updated or are no longer required these should be investigated as a top priority over loosing any public services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	About time, how has this process ever become inefficient	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I personally did not think that WLC had a lot of managers. Always the case though of two many chiefs and not enough Indians.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Top heavy management structure are not good. No massive salaries. It looks really bad and there is rarely justification for it. Decision makers need to be held to account regularly so that decisions are clearly articulated and can be reviewed. Get rid of people who don't accept responsibility but allow people to learn from their mistakes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Would like a review of the management structure as assume it is top heavy in some teams	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management should be reducing their spending and looking how to keep every member of staff in their current paid roles	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cutting management is a very good idea, trust in staff that they can make decisions without having to refer to manager after manager.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	That would be fine as long as it was more efficient, some times managment don't always make the right decisions and don't listen to the voice of the public or their staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Would agree that management be streamlined so that there is a shift in workforce make up that has more employed that actually do the jobs required. Should look at amalgamating departments and make managers more "hands on" so they have an understanding of what is happening. Do not just remove job titles but be better aware of what talent you have and nurture it to get the best person for a role.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, as long as these changes would prove to be more efficient and are reviewed appropriately, then I don't perceive this to be problematic. I would like to comment that I don't know much about the structure of council services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	You have too many staff in managing, who aren't doing too good of a job managing and getting too much money for a job they dont do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our employees regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel employees in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree again - management structures need regular review to keep them relevant and working efficiently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If this will stop stupid jobs worths wasting tax payers money so be it .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too many managers, not enough staff - it should be the priority when working on cost savings to reduce the number of managers, this is just a waste of resources and makes it even more difficult to make decisions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reducing middle management in order to maintain frontline services is a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It's highly debatable as to whether current structures deliver effective outcomes at the moment. It is not clear what is being proposed by these measures e.g. addressing fragmented structure to eliminate conflicting arrangements or simply reducing headcounts to have more areas report to fewer managers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management services should start at the top. Realign boundaries cutting back on the amount of councillors. Thereafter look at all the consultancy positions and address the wasted there.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	To many managers not enough workers. Employ more daily workers for the jobs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are too many managers/high level practitioners in Education (and possibly in other sectors of the Council?). These are a very expensive resource and can be ineffective due to the motivation to justify their position/compete with/confusion with other High Level Teams becoming a primary focus rather than that of truly supporting their real rationale/purpose.; For instance - do we need as many position holders such as Pedagogy officers, Equity and Excellence Officers, Health and Wellbeing Officers and Inclusion and Wellbeing Officers - do these overlap/compete? Shouldn't we invest in "in the classroom" roles which are dedicated to supporting children more effectively in schools?; How many of these positions are PEFunded - is there an inequity here - there should be more "on the ground" staff to support the closure of gaps and learning needs rather than "fly over" staff who focus on data and policies quite far removed from reality? Covid has created a real problem in terms of learning gaps and challenges around learning behaviour, emotional and social issues which are affecting all children drastically in schools today more than ever before. Is there an "Emperor's New Clothes" culture developing? Are we truly focusing on Getting It Right For Every Child or have the different lenses and the deep dives and the chiming obscured our vision and attention?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This seems sensible. A lot of sectors seem 'top heavy' - eg education - lots of deputies and headteachers (on large salaries) who do not teach any classes whatsoever	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Slimming down of management makes sense however if your talking schools they need non class contact staff who can deal with the ever increased demand for support with health and well-being issues, including mental health and disruptive/violent behaviours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Review services and ensure they deliver. Health and social care have had enough reforms. Review structures of services out with, are senior managers actually needed?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good news! Reduce bureaucracy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	When services and duties are run effectively then this will allow the council to be productive. Any savings within the council is welcomed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If there are efficiencies to be made while maintaining services and duties, why not?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I'd agree with this suggestion, however, diluting the responsibility of managers covering already large remits and service responsibilities may only goes to weaken the workforce if the retained management don't have a good understanding of the work of services and their needs.; I have experienced this already through previous efficiency savings which ultimately led to an increased workload for all staff beneath.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This would help taking but would to make sure that staff have a manager that is contactable not one who is too busy and not really contactable because they are in meetings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Sensible restructure can be effective but not if it means the top tiers getting huge salaries and keeping their jobs whilst lower level workers are made redundant leaving more work and pressure for those remaining. Unemployment will not help West Lothian	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are too many senior managers and not enough frontline staff which is putting pressure on staff there at the moment .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Agree with proposal- more qual balance in the neighbourhood management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If the services are being realigned then it is without saying the management arrangements would need to be in line with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	We have a duty to review at cost saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is difficult to quantify as a resident- as the service provider we have to trust you to manage funds appropriately.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Important that decisions making process is transparent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As long as service quality is not damaged then yes that is okay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Seems like there are too many levels of management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, making efficiencies should not mean more stressful workload for other individuals. All for making savings but not to the detriment of people's mental health and stress levels	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Its great saying reduces staff and services and hope to NOT impact of the public but what about those staff that may be laid off or not replaced? that's an impact on them and the other staff who have to Take up the slack.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	By maintaining current buildings and housing you can reduce the number of resources required to lay new developmental property. Already council decisions making is a timeous process, with a reduced budget how will this be affected?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cutting management is becoming close to impossible, the strain and stress on managers is already significant.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Difficult to comment when there is no detail. You already face challenges recruiting experienced managers how is this going to help. Will it not increase stress levels and therefore absence	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	So more managers less workers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I'd rather lose magement than 'boots on the ground!'	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think there is a danger of slimming the management structure down to a point where it cannot work efficiently if there is any degree of staff illness or other issues keeping staff from their work. The slack cannot be picked up if there is not a certain amount of flexible staffing at management level.....or indeed any level.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The council has already cut staff back to the bone through TYC. There are very few people left to deliver qualitative services. Employees are working long hours and sickness absence is on the increase due to stress and anxiety.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, nobody wants too much management, but we have seen too much of the "Tom Peters" effect, where management is stripped out and there is not opportunity to plan and guide and support staff endeavours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above, is this another way of saying a job traditionally done by two people will now somehow have to be done poorly by one.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There is already a lot of pressure on management positions due to increase in workload so if more managers are not hired then workload will get larger.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reducing line management does not always support effective delivery if the remaining managers are too busy to be good at the job.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, taking away staff (management or not) for education would be disastrous. In other agencies, required by education to meet pupil needs and support child protection, there is also a lack of people for us to get in touch with and this often leaves us helpless and alone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This really does not tell me anything, greater detail required please. Interestingly Parks & Woodland have over the years, had its management structure greatly reduced multiple times (redundancies, posts retired and not replaced, restructures, etc.) to the degree where it has become extremely challenging to continue to provide the many services we provide the public to the high standard that we are both appreciated by the public and staff are proud of. It is thanks to the commitment of the Parks & Woodland staff that the unit has continued to provide its services directly to the public, identifying issues, sourcing solutions and making things happen. I do not feel that this is fully appreciated by the Council itself.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, taking away staff (management or not) for education would be disastrous. In other agencies, required by education to meet pupil needs and support child protection, there is also a lack of people for us to get in touch with and this often leaves us helpless and alone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am concerned about resource re-alignment. What is the nature of this and how is it making things more efficient. I am assuming most people at the council are working very hard already at trying to achieve efficiency, considering previous cuts from previous years.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I struggle to get the required support from management staff as it is to be able to support our pupils and also support behavioural issues on a daily basis. Workload is not manageable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, reducing staff creates a reduction in service delivery.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	In primary schools management is already at a 'bare bones' level. In many schools there are real problems with supervision when management are out of the building at meetings or other events. Teachers are swapping lunchtimes to supervise children which results in time taken away from learning and teaching.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Taking away people that are needed in some areas of the council can put more work on others that can cause absences that's no good	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Managers are already stretched. Reducing this area would deliver financial savings but not efficiency savings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	In West Lothian schools, there are not enough Senior and Middle managers, compared to other regions. This leads to an over-inflated remit for each individual which is neither achievable or sustainable. This leads to burn out for staff and jobs half finished. Other Regional structures are much better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am not a manager so I can't fully comment but I know our school is much more efficiently led now we have more teachers in a promoted post and much more support is given to class teachers because of this. It would be dangerous to reduce the amount of quality leaders and managers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Within schools there is HT, Deputy and principle teachers. ELC - Elcasm, eyo, nursery nurse and support. Elcasm were employed to support nurseries along with HT and Deputy. They were also part of management structure during term time holidays but they are often on holiday at this time too there for Nursery staff have to utilize other elcasms that are working but may have never met.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Efficiency is needed but not necessarily at the cost of jobs/extended periods of uncertainty.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I feel that with this model that council governance and decision making will in fact become less efficient as the few who are left to do so will have far too big a work load to get around to dealing with everything.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, some Managers and Team leaders are already being stretched to the max please don't push them to breaking point.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think management in schools is important.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The removal of some of the management structure from the Education sector has led to an increase in workload for already heavily worked teaching staff who are spending an inordinate amount of time on simple administration tasks rather than preparing for the quality teaching and learning that these professionals should be delivering.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Does this mean we were inefficient previously?; The estimates savings sound made-up/aspirational.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would worry that by doing this, you will be stretching already frayed people and services even further. There is only so much a person can do in the working week.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think management structures are very lean across the council, particularly at senior level. I would not support further efficiencies at management level.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Making cuts which are not informed by genuine efficiency considerations would be false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	keep all staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again no loss of jobs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There is already a heavy workload with no expertise and rather bitesize training. Stripping back further on key personnel to support with their expertise is a real challenge and a risk of serious error being made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Reducing managers may increase inefficiency and cost more in long run, details would be required for clear goals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are far too many managers and not enough staff to do the jobs, services are decimated as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Stop calling it efficiencies. that implies we are inefficient at the moment and plays into the hands of politicians who would see the end of public services. You can't keep cutting managers and expect services to operate. You need managers to be there to support their teams and support EMT.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A reduction in management generally means a reduction in supports and protection for frontline staff which significantly impacts on their ability to do their job.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Comment not relevant to the question
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I do not agree with these plans.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This has also led to managers not having the knowledge or expertise in all the fields that they require for the responsibilities held by them. Prime example teaching with PTC of faculties not having expertise in the areas they are in charge of leaving teachers within their departments taking on additional workload.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Quality of service is likely to suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Being an employee in West Lothian council, the delayering of the management structure has not led to efficiency instead it has led to increased workload and delegation to staff who are already under pressures to meet the requirements of their job role.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There have been cuts to management structures already. all that has happened is that senior managers are over worked and are carrying more teams, and you cannot get support when you need it. This is causing increased sickness level amongst managers, and it is the managers that attend their work that are left carrying extra teams. The managers that are off sick are taking longer to come back.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	By continuing to reduce managers more and more of the work they did is being placed on staff, who are now required to do work which is not part of their pay grade.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This should be reviewed annually.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management levels can be streamlined	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	In the area I work in, management is already over stretched and therefore poor quality due to time restraints and work load	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	My experience is managers have too big a team to fully supervise and manage while undertaking other duties. We need more, not less.; Overloading staff with a too heavy workload will just impact on the stress and possible absence of managers, resulting in the team being affected adversely too.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The current support of the management arrangements within education work well and it would be impact service delivery if these were to change more as they have already been cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There must be a risk that already hard working staff are put under further stress as a result of further efficiencies which could therefore prove counter productive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	you cant gain access to any management, there is a high turn around of management, houseing officers and staff, with multipke interrims who cant follow up on anything meaningful due to the way the orgainisation keeps restructuring or moving , along with resources being taken away which creates lack of bandwidth to deal with anyones issues,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Would this leave managers over-stretched?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Key word 'effective' here. Bin collections are not ideal at present so any reduction here would seem untenable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management savings in schools with less cover will only dilute the overall success of the individual schools, which in some areas fight daily challenges. Many teachers and managers in schools are not only providing education but emotional support caring for social issues and huge behavioural problems for the children. They are also charged with the support of parents who often need guidance on how to simply parent their children. Reduction in these areas will cause huge losses and overall displacement of the social issues educators face.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More cuts in this area in my opinion will cause areas to be overseen by management who do not specialise in this area. Resulting in inefficient running of departments, unnecessary pressure will be put on staff who are seeking support and help from management who aren't fully knowledgeable on the area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The council has made savings in management positions over the last decade and scope for further savings is limited.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, do not cut schools funding. They barely squeak by as it is with staffing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management already overwhelmed - cutting back further is terrifying.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, increased workload for management which will have an impact on services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The current staff levels are already putting employees under extreme pressure to try to continue to deliver service levels without the required resource. You cannot achieve effective delivery without the necessary staff. If staff are cut further then everyone has to be fully aware the service standards the public and councillors have come to expect. It's going to be a bitter pill to swallow but councillors are going to have to inform their constituents and acknowledge themselves that what they used to expect will no longer be achievable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	How can this be correct!!! Surely this has always been the council's objective this sounds like cut the numbers but expect more from those that are left !!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management cuts in schools will not work with attainment being the priority	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I do not believe youth services should have any reductions in funds. It has already been cut to the bare minimum half of youth clubs across West Lothian were shut in the last savings and the very little that is left are over worked and over stretched. Too many kids not enough Staff or clubs!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The same goes for school's no cuts should be made to staffing here and more funds should be provided. Again, not enough staff and too many kids. Teachers and youth services are already heavily under funded. It would be an absolute joke to cut from here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	How can you cut anymore	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The budget gap the council is facing is caused by increasing costs and a rising population combined with insufficient levels of government grant funding. This means that difficult decisions will require to be taken over the next five years about local services.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I believe that cutting back on staff only transfers the workload to others.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Re alignment of services has an impact on quality of services provided	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Stop paying ridiculously high salaries to senior managers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Where will this actually be cut from?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Same as above. Where will 500k go?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Unable to comment, the management structure in my area is already quite lean with managers covering wide remits. If it were to be reduced, we need to reconsider the workload for managers and remove tasks which do not add value. In some cases greater admin support would enable managers to accomplish more.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More time wasted reading this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not sure the explanation provides enough info for me to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	again without seeing the structure and understanding responsibilities etc its difficult to agree or disagree with this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not sure how they are going to do this with it already feeling like we need more boots on the ground.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Which management functions? How will effectiveness be measured?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again with a view to education, management is integral to be able to function effectively and allow teachers and staff to complete their job and ultimately support children in their learning. Unfortunately I do not feel knowledgeable enough to comment on management out with the school situation.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Is it working already? (Serious question.) In other words, will these be a case of carrying on with cuts and strategies that have already been started during the past decade of austerity? And is this working? Is it better than what came before, or there just no other choice?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	What will management efficiencies look like? Will lead to loss of jobs?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	See above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not able to comment as unaware of the full extent of management roles.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not qualified to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	..	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	See above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment to add as not enough info on impact given	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think once we know which services are going to be cut then could comment more	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment. It seems a redesign of the organisation	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	????	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I don't feel I have enough knowledge on this area to offer an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	,	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Nil	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More time wasted reading this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Na	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	These	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Same answer as above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No comment to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I have nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	You say a saving but not to what effect? Does it mean job losses? Is the structure going to work for the people	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No view on this proposal.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is too vague to make any meaningful comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No thoughts on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above ,	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Same as above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	See comments above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Which services? Which managerial roles will be amalgamated? Managerial skills require not only organisation skills but, in service delivery management, both knowledge & understanding of the service being delivered. Saving money in the short term can cost dearly in the longer term both to users AND the provider. Without an understanding of how existing management structures have been assessed & evaluated no informed comment can be made.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	have no solution on this saving	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above, how many members of staff in the management structure will be lost?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This would be an interesting re-structuring initiative. For obvious reasons, I instantly think of people losing their jobs to make these savings. For obvious reasons, I couldn't willingly agree with people losing their jobs without understanding details. Then, additional responsibilities being added to the jobs that are left. Again, without understanding the detail re current / future responsibilities then unable to make a valid comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Good, to many committees and sub committees only slows things up	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	What is the estimate based on back of fag packet or actual analysis. Restructuring moves but does not save cost	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	You need to ensure that support is still in place for managers, otherwise their workload will be overwhelming, causing more stress and management sickness.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The layer of teaching staff called professional learning officer should be removed. They should go back to being class teachers in schools instead of being based at the civic centre. This would save money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	What are you actually planning? Is this a reduction in the number of higher salaried individuals?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If management in schools is to be reduced, this would have to be in conjunction with less paper work!!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	How will this affect the most vulnerable, for example those on child protection register and those receiving care packages and those with additional needs?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	not sure where you could reduce management and still be effective in running local services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Work experience has shown that streamlining/amalgamating management positions can make significant savings.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Please explain in depth exactly what changes to what services will be made and what resources will be realigned and how?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	What are you saying here? Management services will be reviewed? How can I comment unless I know which services, how the review will be carried out and the impact on residents.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	See above. How are you going to improve governance and decision-making if you have less staff resource? If the workload/statutory duties of the Council isn't going to change, then you are surely just going to increase pressures on remaining staff, which is likely to lead to issues with governance and performance.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Would this involve cutting management positions, or increasing the scope of existing roles?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Without having a full understanding of the management structures which would be affected, makes it difficult to comment fully - staff and staff groups need to be fully supported and have the management structure in place to do so	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I have witnessed poor choices within the management and decision making in regards to job responsibilities. Please consider management actually meeting staff for meetings in regards to changes as staff have some very good ideas.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Less beaurocracy , streamline decision making process but greater accountability.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Effectively guaranteed working hours/standards being rigorously carried out personally- no more significant anomalies in audits of work.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Stop wasting money on fancy projects.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It seems to be that all the resources that support the general public are being cut, cut, cut. Surely the starting point should be the high salaries at the top, the new buildings that have sprouted all over the place all the junkets the high heedjins seem to go on, why are these never reduced as this would save loads of money. It seems cut off the support for the general public but make sure the council are kept in comfort and excessive business jaunts and expenses seem to be very over the top. You cant expect the general public to make sacrifices if the council leaders are not doing the same	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Frontline staff still need support from management for them to carry out their duties.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	How can already stretched managers take on any more responsibilities. Is their health and well-being being considered?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would love to see the widest possible adoption of home working where possible to reduce traffic, cost of running offices etc.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Offer voluntary service widely to reduce headcount.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think the council should be reviewing job descriptions, terms and conditions and holding people to account. People should be doing the job well and they generally do this if they are coached and had an interest in the first place. It is well known that people stuck in with the council because of their pension not an appetite for the job. This will mean absence and a getting by attitude. Managers need to be proactive but supportive and be skilled in coaching but know when enough is enough.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Managers all need to know what the council's objectives are. Too many make their own decisions and go their own way, poorly affecting staff and customers	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	can only pair back on management to a point - they need the time to provide the support to ensure that staff are working effectively	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This seems a rather insignificant amount relative to the over needed sum. If it means, for example that the highest earners in the council are, for example, having their salaries capped, this would be an equitably thing overall.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Have the particular Management Arrangements been identified?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I don't see any mention of cutting management staff - why is that?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Wages of managers should be seriously reviewed. Number of managers should be reviewed, there should be no consultants employed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	OFFER EMPLOYEES OVER 45 YEARS SERVICE AN ENHANCEMENT TO LEAVE; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	HOME WORKING WHERE POSSIBLE TO SAVE THE ENVIROMENT, BUILDINGS HEATINHG LIGHTING COSTS COULD BE EFFECTIVE	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I personally feel that managment need to be able to provide the same output in regards to workloads.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Managers need to be paid in respects to their new or altered roles, not adding on additional workload for free.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Effective delivery if council services? They couldn't even keep the grass cutting up to standard in the summer! The place looked like a jungle in some parts as it was so overgrown! Drivers couldn't see at junctions for overgrown trees etc so I can't see how changing things now are going to make council services more effective! They haven't been effective for years!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Look internally at staff and see who are good efficient workers and are they very necessary, and there will be those who are not, is the role a created roll and can be done without, if you cut staff make sure you keep the good ones and be rid off those who are not, from the top all the way down to the bin men.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	governance committees should be approving decisions based on a high level of due diligence	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	clearly define roles and responsibilities of all staff to ensure these are met;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Is there plans to be transparent about the structures so the public can have confidence in the costings attached to management structures and departments.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Council should be striving to have the best management structure to meet the needs of the community. Not sure why the structure would require to change if it's fit for purpose	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	An audit of school management is needed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an agreed devolved school management (DSM) scheme which is subject to ongoing review.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Will managers' skills and experience be taken into account? Too often managers are moved with less experience than the team they are managing	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	good supporting management is important for running daily activities in optimal manner	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Although savings are crucial, It is very important that the council ensure that the management structure continues to support effective delivery of council services and statutory duties.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Still waiting on pay rise to be fixed and payed	4. The council is already doing this.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Unfortunately we have not much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events, Leaving EU etc. My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Will this include Senior level managers and not just managers working in day to day settings	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think WLC need to be really clear what they want from management arrangements. Present a clear set out outcomes based on identified community need and work back from there to create a model that will deliver these in partnership with council services where appropriate.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	For management to be efficient they need to be experienced in practice	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Autonomy (with governance), Mastery and purpose. Seems there is a huge disconnect between the councillors getting what the people want doing and the number of vanity projects popping up. I have been on at the council for over a year at publishing and being transparent on the street cleaning schedules. Seems that the council or schedule has little to no common sense when they should step up on services and when they can ease off. Its like we have people who do nothing but sit in an office all day planning as oppose to just being out and observing the things that are not right.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I refer to the management question, it's important the right people are in the right job, making the right decisions instead of being short sighted	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Worked for WLC in a temp position during Covid 2021-2022 never having worked for a local authority before and omg if this was a private sector company you would be bankrupt/sacked in 6 months !!! Sorry gotta tell it how it is guys. I liked the people I worked with on a personnel level but jeez ask them to do an excel worksheet not gonna happen 🤖 I am not a PC whizz kid (too old) but even I know how to do a v - look up !!! Get a grip of your IT u need to pay the £££s to contractors to set this stuff up and make it accessible to the PC/app novices in the first instance then take it from there ... having worked in the Covid test centre not everyone is digital savvy please allow an option for the digital novices etc	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our employees regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel employees in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Everyone needs support.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Continuation of hybrid termed working here. This prompted and driven by the pandemic and was put in place. Management setup/deliverance could efficiently continue this way	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	For this to be effective management need appropriate levels of training and this is a must. For them to lead and for their staff teams to be efficient this is deffo important . There is nothing worse than staff that don't know how to effectively fix things or support council; Tenants	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Seek out exceptional managers and leaders. Give employees responsibility and create capability at all levels.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Must keep enough workers on the shop floor	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Does this mean reduction in manager level staff? How are you upskilling other team members in effective decision making at all levels?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It is important that children have enough teachers, class room assistance to support their new learning.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council meets national class size requirements and supervision ratios.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I have heard ideas of sharing head teachers. We do not support this move as it could affect the outcomes of kids in West Lothian adversely. West Lothian is not a test tube for such experiments. We absolutely do not support changes that reduce the amount of teachers or teaching assistants in any West Lothian school.	4. The council is already doing this.	Shared headships are an established practice within West Lothian schools, and have not had a negative impact on attainment or quality of education.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	How about looking further into the structure of road management services. Council workers for road digs, traffic management, pot holes bad road resurfacing. It would seem there is an over staffed issue here. Many times I have seen and it is widely seen by others. 5 men on the job but only 2 working. This is actually a laughing point by many. West lothian Council can't staff there schools but can pay street services to sit and watch the show.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Remove community councils, they are a waste of resources and time	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A synergy which would also help "close the gap" in education is to reduce the vast amount of senior posts which "advise" (RICs/EOs/Pedagogy officers) and redistribute these to posts like teachers and support staff who actually teach and support in the classroom and/or use these monies to provide funding for specialist places for the many pupils who are currently in mainstream schools and need so much more support.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	West Lothian Council has a lean central education team whose support is valued by schools and is an integral part of the raising attainment strategy.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More people out of work.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Get council workers back to work in the office that will help efficiency, how anyone are allowed to work in this disjointed way is beyond me .	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again. I hope staff will not be reduced and those who are the top earners are taking a pay cut	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Make everyone justify every task they are doing, and detail how it links to the WL Council Strategy. If it doesn't, then why are you doing it?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Wow 500,000 saving put that into permanent public transport through out west lothian	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Stop insisting that managers endlessly report to their senior managers who the report to Extreme salaries are now paid for non jobs.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No additional duties/expectations for current workers	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Outsourcing management of services is not always the great idea it seems, this can be very bad for residents.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More redundancies	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Putting management duties onto workers is too much.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Some senior management should re-apply for their jobs and only those who meet the standards should continue to be employed. Some roles could be incorporated into one role.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our employees regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel employees in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Pay Managers Less	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	another restructure??? Perhaps overdue , but evaluation of previous restructures should be carried out,actually assessing roles rather than looking at technical staff as like for like. The past two or three restructures have not addressed this issue. Many parts of the service 'grade' and value staff very unfairly e.g/ certain 'admin' staff are absurdly undervalued and payed and grading should be far more flexible	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Hi in my service you reduced management I now manage 2 x staff groups however instead of streamlining paperwork etc. so I don't have to repeat the same processes I still have to do 2 x same paperwork making it cumbersome.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Up to now it seems that any resource realignment just means more work is put on to managers - that's been my experience anyway - HR do less and less and Managers are expected to do more -	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Systems that are put in place to facilitate these changes are clunky, not intuitive and result in more work and checking for managers, systems are normally designed with the biggest focus on Monday to Friday 9-5 staff- CSC staff operate 24/7 365 days a year and MYHR does not fully cater for this as Managers and staff can be on different working patterns - the system also does not accommodate all of our working patterns and relies on manual intervention which means that it is more work for managers Senior Managers are stretched too thinly and this means that they are not able to spend time with their teams, becoming remote and not able to offer support to staff who are having to handle increased workloads and deal with customers who are unhappy with the service provided as the organisation now needs to say " no " more often.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No recommendation. Just as a note i know my manager has had to take on additional work, and I dont feel my (or any other manager I have contact with) has scope to take on any extra works. However, I know that the duplicated works caused by TMS and MyHR and an impact, maybe consider streamlining this into one service to reduce "duplication" of work, same can be considered for staff who have to book leave on TMS and then again on MyHR.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Maintain good levels of directorate to ensure open n honest service can be provided.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Stop topping up higher earners wages. Do not spend any more money on bins. Do not take full services off the vulnerable, only cut things a little bit.of each. Ask companies rather than chuck food away to give it away to those in need. People are suffering with mental health and I feel its due to the way things are in life.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	We are already very lean in terms of our management structures compared to other councils. With fewer managers we need to review the tasks we are asking them to do.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again unaware of management structure. It would be useful to the public to know who heads what department though. This would obviously put a lot more work on less people though and I would worry if this would be detrimental to the public.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It would be good to see details of plans, will this result in job losses, will staff on the ground increase or will more automation mean less staff.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is a mammoth task and I believe a lot of changes to services could be detrimental, however, many of the services could be made more efficient with the help of those who work in that particular area. E.g Ask the employees who work in various departments for their opinions, ideas and knowledge.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	You should be supporting and training the managers you have to ensure that they get the best from the teams they are managing rather than having to do so much reporting and being too far away from the teams they should be managing. If you remove them then they will have even less time to support, and performance manage the teams they have to provide the best value for money	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	council must stop leaning on acting positions within education, doesn't support staff and has lead to significant hardship for some who have been on acting contracts for over 6 years and then seen them removed.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Number Crunchers' with no real understanding (and probably no real desire to achieve this) of how grass roots services work are never going to be the most effective managers of services. The fundamental raison d'etre of Social Policy services is to assess each client AS AN INDIVIDUAL, and provide bespoke and meaningful intervention which is informed by the assessed unmet needs for that individual client. It should not be a 'one size fits all' approach which is dictated by the expectations of those manifestly unqualified to comment. Less influence from the rarified atmosphere of the boardroom and more autonomy for, and trust in managers who possess a practical understanding of how services actually work would go a long way to facilitate effective delivery for the clients.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	We need to ensure that a reduction in managers does not leave us with employees managing areas that they have no knowledge in. Relevance and experience are important and should be considered when we make efficiencies in management.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There is a lack of a 360 degree performance review - it is all one way. Middle management does not work - they have no authority to make any changes / answer any questions / don't mentor. Unclear of what their responsibility is - it is either delegated up or down and then left with carrying out trivial activities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Managers are still working from home I believe in some instances. Surely in this environment we now need to have the managers on hand to be available to support colleagues as numbers on the ground are dwindling. Do we have too many managers?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This must not create more hoops for the customer to jump through and must still give ample opportunity for management to speak to customers if needed	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Will the public get notice of what all the changes incorporate and how it is all going to work before plans are finalised.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I'd suggest decision-making meetings were more productive. I have witnessed few of them and they have not run with structure that save time, money and actually have decision-making outcome. Consider e.g. SPRINT method.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Better choices could be done	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A lot of managers' time go into HR stuff like filling in paperwork, chasing ppl for things etc - I wish the system we have in place could do that to free managers' time.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Departments need to loose the silo thinking approach and look to the greater good	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Need to ensure that enough management support is in place for employees to work effectively - and that processes like our governance process does not get impacted by these changes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, this current consultation process would be the ideal forum to feedback to customers on the savings made during this realignment process - allowing residents the understanding of how this has been beneficial and the estimated financial savings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I think it would be wise to be mindful of redundancies which may be incurred due to management efficiencies as you could lose the most experienced staff and lose money or 'break even' but lost a wealth of expertise. Wage gaps and banding should be reviewed with transparency on why certain people receive certain salaries.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Investment in ensuring staff feel valued and are able to make a meaningful contribution in their roles will help.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Depends on the demands with less staff, to manage things. Don't over whelm people.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	management need to be more pro active in supporting staff. some teams are operating without proper management in place. any changes to the management structure only puts added pressure on existing management already in place	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There needs to be transparency in order to ensure staff support change.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Have better ways for internal colleague's to move up the ladder, provide training for all employees and better communication between departments, departments working together to help each other	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I struggle to see how this can be achieved without reducing the scope of services delivered. As a manager within the council, I cannot see how reducing the number of managers is possible as most are overworked at present. Reducing the administrative burden on managers would help but every new policy/procedure or protocol seems to add to the already significant workload for managers.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Working conditions for those within the management team must be considered.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The most effective services are where people are able to speak with someone who can assist them - rather than being asked to press a button, hold, leave a message, send an email. Please remember that the people who answer your telephones are actually more efficient than those who wade through emails.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Management efficiency is more important. Need to train up the management in order to improve. Fresh talent people could hire in order to improve efficiency	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Whatever changes in management arrangement shouldn't overload the manager, the responsibility need to be cascaded down so that team members can take part and own part of the responsibility. This requires a good communication between management and team member.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Senior management should be more accessible to taxpayers.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Front line staff need support and guidance and direction from management - it is important to recognise that a reduction in management may put additional pressure on already stretched teams which may result in staff turnover. Recruitment is already proving difficult this may add to it	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Need to ensure management structures aren't rearranged to put too much pressure on managers already over stretched.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This service doesnt work and isnt accessible to people, especially people with learning or accesibility needs. people need a face or voice to speak to that can offer you the support you need more effectively.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If re-aligning services and teams within those services, could there be potential for shared services here? This may bring a front end saving benefit, however runs the risk of losing vital expert knowledge and could also bring with it legislative challenges through sub par performance.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has existing shared service agreements with some public sector partners and will continue to develop opportunities for further shared service arrangements with other public bodies.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Having worked in the public sector for 46 years performance management can deliver benefits - clear expectations and good management of delivery, with appropriate support or sanctions as necessary - act quickly - don't spend six months thinking about it. Do not however simply cut to save - that doesn't typically end well if people end up feeling the service they need isn't being delivered and resort to finding their own solutions where they can.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It will be essential that throughout this process staff are supported, which starts with being kept informed, and that they feel they are valued and not just a means to tick boxes of targets.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A reduction in management staff would require far greater support to any retained so that they can effectively manage and support services better than has happened when previous arrangements have been altered.; Managers should know the operations of the services that they manage inside-out and this is definitely not the case.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Stop being corruptable and get proper quotea and tenders. No back handers. No fancy dinners and sweeteners.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As said, maybe (redacted) and (redacted) slush fund colleagues take a "living wage" like all of us mere plebs?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Terrible level of service delivered across the board.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Mám zaujem	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	halo ***** (redacted)	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I need help	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	My son can't breathe because of your organisation	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Things like fireworks/bonfires should be banned due to the mess that they expect the council to clean the mess.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Council bigwigs should take a pay reduction instead of over working and under paying the average council employee.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Those at the top should be taking a pay cut to ensure that Serb ones can continue to be provided	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	local member payments could be looked at	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I know cuts have to be passed down but this is unbelievable. The UK and Scottish Govt should work together and forget indie2!!!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	We do not support cuts to police, ambulance or fire services.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	At the moments the pay for west Lothian leisure particularly management is not good. the majority of our duty managers have left due to this reason. our pay has gone up but not enough with regards to the work load they have now been asked in take on. compared to the lowest rate of pay it is only a difference of £2.42 which for what the jobs are is not adequate.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Elements of salaries should be performance related.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Accountability must be open and transparent, it's clear that the existing structure is neither. Reinstating the link back to Scottish Government Wards (i.e. Linlithgowshire) would ensure better governance.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If you didn't exist and were replaced by burgh councils for each of Livingston, Bathgate, Linlithgow, Whitburn, Armadale, Broxburn etc, I am certain this is the kind of cut that would never be considered or necessary. My suggestion is recommending to the Scottish Parliament that West Lothian Council (and all other council) be broken up into councils closer to the average size of a council in Europe, and not the current model which isn't remotely local.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Cannot comment as statement is ambiguous! Does this mean management jobs are okay, we will just sack the workers?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As with previous statement it is not possible to comment without more detail being available.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	"Some management arrangements" and "resource realignment where appropriate" - this question is exceptionally vague and provides insufficient information to allow any comment to be made. It is disappointing though if a lean management and governance structure has not been implemented fully at the council already	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, this isn't consultation its telling us what you are going to do. What will impact on customers, WL residents, be? Needs to be far more detailed. Above statement is just waffle...	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This point completely goes against the first point?!?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again no details what arrangements and what changes to services. A consultation is supposed to detail options so the public can offer informed opinions and/or alternatives.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Some management arrangements - this is not clear and is vague	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It is not clear what management arrangements will be reviewed nor at what level.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Tue above doesn't provide any detail. What do you want us to comment on?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, there is no detail. This could mean anything - your "management structure" could be having one person overseeing all departments, I am sure it doesn't but it seems whoever signed this off should be one of the managers at the council who should be made redundant.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This statement could not be more vague.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There is already a huge gap in delivery of council services. If you could be more specific as to what the 500,000 cuts are and not discuss in such vague terms then as members of public in the local council area we could make a more informed decision. Its all too vague!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More details required.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	So little detail given here that the consultation feels meaningless	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	What arrangements - this is very vague to make any comments.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	What will the impact be?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Can't comment without the full facts	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is so vague it's hard to comment on. 1A commits to reducing staff numbers but this bit commits only to 'where it is appropriate'?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Another nice big number to put next to another load of (redacted) explanation. The above paragraph of prose means nothing to me. Word salad. I'm guessing it all means job losses and lower wages. For the poor people. Not the ruling classes.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Efficient managers are required to manage. Again too little information	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not enough detail to judge the impact this might have.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Too vague to comment fully.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I don't really know what this section means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Don't understand this issue	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Can't determine what this actually means as no detail given	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again very vague, what are you proposing????!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This seems like jargon, I dont understand this proposal.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This doesn't make any sense. It's very confusing.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I would need to see details before commenting. The description here is too general.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not enough actual information provided to make an informed comment!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Don't fully understand the proposal	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	A very vague description, hard to know what is being proposed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again,where are the reviews? What departments? This tells me nothing.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to what this would involve or how it would affect individuals, services within the Council.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It would not be right to offer feedback without a sound understanding of the services this relates to.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again there is a lack of information on specific changes.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Without more detail impossible to comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is so vague as to be useless. How can you expect comments when there is no detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not clear what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not enough detail to make constructive comments.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The wording of this question is poor. Public surveys should be clear and use plain English. As a member of the public, I have no idea what this means to public service and would generally agree to saving on something I don't understand if it can go to something that clearly provides value to the public like schools, parks, play areas, and roads etc. There is no obvious public service being lost here, there is no reference to impact on customers, why did you not define the real impact? If this is to be a real consultation that is asking the public to weigh pros and cons and make an informed decision, surely you have to define the service or task clearly and define the pros and cons clearly? why would you not just save the £500,000 anyway if you can't define the cons, why ask us?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	dont really know what this mean	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again lacking in detail to give educated consideration	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Need more information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Very difficult to make any comment without further detail how this would work in practice, affect services, staff etc.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I mean do you actually care what anyone thinks because the wording is not clear or easy to understand for this with no background in this. Again how can we comment with no details no transparency.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again just say where your actually making chances too? Make it simple for people to understand better.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	No idea what this means as you have not actually said what you will do. Significant amount of jargon. Plain English required. Essentially you are cutting jobs!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	How much did the council waste on this? It's vague jargon that is not intended for the community at large to easily understand. Blatant transparency is the way to go.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Honestly, I think these questions will be confusing to most people. There is no information here on what change will actually happen to save £500,000 so I don't feel I can comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Impossible to comment on this as the statement is ambiguous and does not state what would actually be changed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	I am not sure what you are asking	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This proposal is poorly described and so it is difficult to comment effectively on it.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not even sure what this means , review of management arrangements , eg managers work less hours or take over more than one section. How can you estimate savings if its just a review	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This statement gives no indication of HOW the Council will ensure the 'effective delivery of council services and statutory duties' while seeking greater efficiency, nor what 'greater efficiency' means in this context.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, see above. Your description is so vague it means nothing.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, a weeping, vague statement. More detail would be appreciated.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Difficult to say much based on the words above other than OK	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	More detail is required on how this will work. I am unable to provide comment as the proposal is vague. What are the changes proposed? How are resources to be "re-aligned"?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It is disingenuous to ask people to comment on such a broad proposal with far too little detail for anyone to give an opinion on - it constitutes tick box consultation. It is difficult to argue with the broad principle outlined but it very much depends on how it impacts on people - reducing staff can often mean that the only method of communication is online and in many organisations this causes much greater inefficiency/no help at all for the customer/client.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	difficult to provide specific feedback without knowing the actual detail around the proposed plans.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again, it is not clear what management and what the projected impact would be. Depending on the nature and extent of the restructuring it could have little impact on services or lead other workers within the Council to wasting hours of work (and therefore Council money) trying to get decisions or services.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This is as clear as mud. What does this actually mean in practice. There is nothing here that could allow for any meaningful comment. As per 1A, there is an increasingly high risk that there just won't be enough people left to do the work required. Better management of the budget would mean that fewer jobs would go.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Does this mean the current framework is inefficient? The statement is far too vague with far too little detail	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	This sounds confusing don't know what you want us to say	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As above -how is it possible to have an opinion on this when it's as vague as 'some management arrangements will be reviewed' ?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Which management arrangements will be reviewed and what services will be changed? From where, and to where, will resources be realigned? Without knowing the answers to these questions it is impossible to evaluate with the proposed changes.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If you don't tell us which efficiencies you will be managing, how can I comment.; ; Prevention and good maintenance are better than cure or replacement.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Like what??? You are asking for comments but not giving an explanation? There does seem to be a lot of managers on high salaries, along with councillors.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.; ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The above sentence is not very clear. Not sure if you are talking about reducing the number of managers. I am not sure how this works in all the departments but in my current role I dare say that the number of managers are too low and due to this they are unable to fulfill basic duties such as peer checking which has a knock back effect on the quality of work some people do and also the inequality between employees.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As you don't say what the changes are it is impossible to say whether they will impact positively or negatively. Without specifics this is impossible to comment on.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There are no details in this statement. How exactly does the structure change? Sack all the middle managers and give one person £500k per year? Again there are no specific details to give a qualified answer	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Not sure exactly what you mean, just hoping services will not become unreliable and harder to access.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	If the management arrangements are still to be reviewed, now can you estimate the savings?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Narrative is too vague to comment on. No details have been given how management arrangements will be changed and the impact this would have.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Insufficient detail on impact to make any assessment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again difficult to comment with no details provided	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Without detailed information I don't see how I can comment on this or what you are expecting/wanting from comments.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Again it sounds good though vague as no detail however sounds good	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	What arrangements will be reviewed? How will these be more efficient? Again, there's not enough information here to provide a comment so I'm assuming this is not a real consultation exercise, but merely one that you can say you did. If you really wanted to do a co-creation style budget then you would be out and about consulting with people giving them full information, not asking extremely vague questions with no detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Don't fully understand as not enough details given as to how this estimated saving would be achievable, if it means looking at the number of senior positions within management structure being reviewed with aim to reduce numbers of staff being paid high salaries then I would agree to this being looked at.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Any savings shouldn't be done at expense of providing reasonable services for the customers.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Consultation very difficult to understand	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Some management arrangements. No comments. We don't know the arrangements	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	There isn't really enough information provided in the description above to comment on.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	Please consult with plain language instead of euphemisms. Remove diversity and inclusion roles. Simply collect and publish data.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1B Review of Management arrangements	It's not clear from above where the savings will be found.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is a very welcome change and the budget saving is an added bonus	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with adopting new and existing technologies. It is vital that systems are integrated and supported following implementation. This will ensure any new technology is fully utilised and the benefits are realised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There should always be option for those who don't have access to IT to speak to someone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Great as long as menus more navigable than current multi click cyclic options	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as customers can access, and in case of issues with the automated technology there is an option of talking to someone, or leaving a message with guaranteed response this would be a sensible change.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Effectiveness is a much better objective than 'efficiency'. Are all current systems working for staff and customers? There is a lot more we could do with our smartphones, for example, but we're not able to as they have limited function.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Services being run are within areas of severe deprivation and social depravity. Customers who use these services see them as a lifeline, they cannot work digital technology, either not possessing the means or the financial ability to sustain this.; The council provide a face to face service which must remain intact in these times of social angst and worrying cost of living crisis.; People need that contact and reassurance from a person rather than a faceless machine. The idea of digital contact is overall a good idea but this must be carried out slowly and within the means of the public who are using these services in the present time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I work in IT so support this, but accessibility is key e.g. for older people who are less confident in engaging with digital delivery should not be excluded.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated systems are great as long as it is easy and straightforward to use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Supported, most people have embraced changing technology due to the COVID pandemic.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More investment into digital services is definitely beneficial to all concerned, there is so much Tech out there which could ultimately benefit people who wish to remain in their own home for as long as possible, Investment to help trial particular pieces of tech will ultimately lead to savings in the long term.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is important but you need to remember that not everyone is IT literate or wants to be - it's not just about age of the user, a lot of younger people wouldn't know how to use some systems to get information or request services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Repurpose before replacing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with this suggestion. It has been challenging to achieve savings from digital transformation in the past and I believe that this is due, at least in part, to (i) Service areas not having the relevant skillset to implement these sort of projects and (ii) NIMBY'ism from Service areas (perhaps related to (i)). Stronger leadership is required from EMT to deliver these savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Danger will be introducing digital solutions (which is the way forward) but retaining all current platforms as well - this is not possible with resource levels, puts stress on staff, pressure on the services and does not "guide/encourage" customers to move to digital platforms.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I personally prefer online services, but have family members that can not access online and there needs to be a human option also	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation has progressed significantly during Covid, driven by practitioners. Map this, share best practice and then assess what is performing and how to roll out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital Transformation should not be about cost saving but about culture change.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	all sounds very good - wonder what customers think about it? will you get their feedback from your online form? or will some older and less able people be once again side lined as cannot complete online forms/surveys	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There needs to be faster progress on this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Some customers don't like digital technologies so hopefully there will be availability for those to still have face to face help.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The savings Benefits everyone	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ditto cloud services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sounds good but be sure to take other councils previous experience as learning. Sometimes this outsourcing can really not work well as was the case with Edinburgh Council a few years back in some of their services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We do still need people in jobs though	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The future is in digital transformation and so should be supported.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, customer and employees must still be able to an actual person when the need requires.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As above, greater access to services online would be advantageous and less reliant on people to answer calls and make decisions. Local hubs could be retained within existing services to help those not in the position to access services online i.e. libraries or equivalent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	High quality technology that is responsive to need required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Whilst it is true to say the way customers access services is changing, there is a danger that this proposal could result in people being left behind. Many older, vulnerable people are not digitally active and rely on "old school" means when accessing council services. The drive to efficiency should not be at the detriment of service users-it would be interesting to see what proposals were being suggested.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Services still need to be available to people who do not have online access	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology comes at a cost in procuring, developing, maintaining, and doesn't necessarily deliver savings in time or energy. Automated processes don't automate themselves. It needs to be carefully considered to ensure best customer service can be maintained.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology use must not be at the cost of providing human interventions for more complex interactions and those which cannot be self-served.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The Authority must also start to use, and not be averse to, technology, such as Apps.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Must always ensure there are telephone and digital options for the vulnerable customers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Staff will need to be trained on using the digital services themselves then trained on how to help customers access and use digital resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ensure full training is given on new technologies to get full benefit from them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council must provide proper IT support to staff and allow for digital transformation, however the current access to online applications is difficult to navigate for staff never mind our customers, the council will need to look at better approaches for carry out work electronically by providing devices for customer to sign from an email or a hand held device that allows for this also. hybrid working and providing IT systems to complete these remotely would also help for tenancy sign ups.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital services have their place, however I hope this is blended to afford those who cannot use digital technology the opportunity to access services face to face.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I would imagine some of the savings would be transferred to the public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with delivering multi-media customer services, a lot of our Customer's chose to send SMS or email rather than speak on phone due to mental health, the younger generation are clued up on all this but you still need to think about our older Customer's who do not use the latest form of technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital services are not always as effective as 'human people' - it is good to interact and engage with people rather than a computer screen or an automated service - yes it will be effective in some cases, but not all - this has to be thought through and implemented carefully - no one wishes to see people lose jobs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The implementation of greater automated processes - is now common - however there should always be an option to speak to a human in case of uncertainty and the "wait time" for access to a human intervention should aim to be within a few minutes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again if IT works well then it would be a good way forward, however there has and will always been poor connections, and faulty systems which means systems down for several hours and even days. Peoples need to hear other people, we need to connect more and not through IT but through person to person . I know this will be challenging due to the economy but we must persevere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If it eorks	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Comment does not make sense
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology is a great way to help provide services, if done properly. However, there must always be someone we can talk to if the automation fails or does not meet customer requirements. Ensure the elderly and vulnerable are considered front and centre in development of technologies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Remember that older people and vulnerable people prefer real people to people interactions rather than automated or online alternatives.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with this, overhaul the council website and provide automated access to more services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good to see the council keeping up with the times ..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	yep,but older people may feel left out!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital services are fine when they work roll out of digital services will not support everyone there must and should be an allowance to allow people to interact on a face to face personal basis	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	1c is the best option as it doesn't reduce public jobs and still is a saving even though it is the lowest option	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	How do you cater for those who are not able to access online services, or are not technologically minded and have no concept of how the online world works?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This should already be a strategic priority to keep pace with technology and shouldn't require citizens to be consulted about it as a high level principle. It would be more appropriate as a consultation question if the specific processes that are to be targeted were outlined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Only if the solution works on phones and tablets unlike the Confero system that needs a PC or Laptop	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automatic process is great only if it works and we'll thought through. It's nothing more frustrating than going into an automatic loop. In reality, it cannot completely replace human staff. There are situations that you just cannot choose from option 1 to 6. It needs to be explained with context.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think this is a good idea but the needs of those customers who do not have access to the internet needs to be taken account. I think any changes should be clearly communicated to customers to ensure that those customers who can access services digitally can do so, freeing up phone lines and staff for those who can't.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More people are making greater use of digital technologies so this seems an appropriate response in this current climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Access to the website pages should be user friendly and not complicated... not everyone is computer savvy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council website is intended to keep West Lothian residents informed about council services and the local area and also, it provides them with access to the council services that they need (for those who wish to transact with the council online). The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Why have you not already done this?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Care must always be taken to put the customer at the heart of digital modernisation. The risk of the less tech literate losing access to services must be avoided.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Care needs to be taken not to exclude those who are not technologically literate - the elderly, those without access to devices.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree although more detail required to ensure adequate balance of digital and non digital forms of service access and engagement are available to meet needs of ALL service users.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital is the way of the world now and is good for cutting costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As per answer number one. I work in education and getting parents and carers to engage with these systems can be very challenging	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Makes sense, self service is the future	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	100% behind this, though provisions must be met when these services fail or if there are items that come out of left field.; Once more though, have effective managers of this, do not utilise costly third parties for anything past the sizing opportunities. Get all software and hardware solutions in-house as quickly as possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree, but there must be some provision for the "non digital" section of the community to also be able to access services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	West Lothian council will need to ensure that there multi system has the answer for everything, also east to use as not everyone has access to internet so there must also have staff members to answer calls	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation is all very well but many elderly tenants cannot access digital technology, nor can they often hear the automated options on telephone lines etc so if they have no family, it is almost impossible for some to engage.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Whilst digital solutions/new technology mostly does help to streamline functions, sadly sometimes it makes the process more complicated, and we are slave to the system capabilities rather than improving services. We have a number of systems within the Council that are unable to communicate with each other causing more frustrations and not really improving the user experience. I think it's a common myth that if we introduce a system, it will make things easier and reduce the need for staff, sometimes that is not the case, and we shouldn't just think of modernisation as introducing more technology to replace people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree but needs to be full end to end ; But where needed have human available	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digitalisation is the new way. Many services have accelerated in this area due to Covid and we should continue to progress with this in areas that work well. Just need to be careful around assuming everyone can manage with this and not everyone is able (not just older people)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as the council remembers that some older residents are not fully IT literate and may struggle if all services are move online.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology used well but wisely. No big systems whereby people wait long periods to get through to the appropriate department.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes technology can help but you need real people to do things	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More digital services are sensible, providing there are sound business continuity measures in place in case of electricity failure or cyber security incidents. It is also important to remember the needs of those in our community who cannot use digital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Always a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Be nor visible online	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You can only digitalise to a certain point people like the human touch	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	An efficient service would be ideal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Must ensure accessibility to all in solutions provided	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Why are you only looking at this now. You've been wasting money up until now by not doing this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has already made savings through digital transformation and the proposals are designed to deliver further savings
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology is only as good as person using it! Please remember not everyone has access to technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Try to encourage more people to pay their bills online if they can.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good for those that use IT, elderly people may struggle	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Many people who access council services as vulnerable and have limited computer literacy and often just need human help. This isn't the worst odea but the reliance of technology reduced the effectiveness of council services. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital solutions are excellent so long as they are properly designed and people, particularly elderly, are confident in using them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Needs to be accessible, easy to navigate and user friendly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This would be great. Be prepared for a number of keyboard warrior's!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital is the way forward however many older customers and customers experiencing severe poverty also have no access to wifi or other forms of contacting online	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I am trusting that this is not double-counting the first item. I would say that talented digital transformation specialists can be expensive- I am one myself - and if there is not a plan, or the plan is not 100% bought into, the scope for improvements in the short to medium term is poor.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology is great in my opinion - but as the saying goes - 'to err is human, but to foul things up completely requires a computer'. My experience of many firms like Utilities and similar is that if you have to phone, it is a nightmare to resolve as Customer services people generally don't know how to resolve the problem if it is a technical one.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated processes do save staff time and money, but when it affects front facing savings, there needs to be a good customer service vehicle to resolve problems when they go wrong - and automated processes DO go wrong. Technology is great in my opinion - but as the saying goes - 'to err is human, but to foul things up completely requires a computer'. My experience of many firms like Utilities and similar is that if you have to phone, it is a nightmare to resolve as Customer services people generally don't know how to resolve the problem if it is a technical one.; ; Have you thought about providing a 'live chat' facility where it would help customers speak to someone without phoning?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I'm all for processes being digitalised but at what cost to staff cuts at the level where lowest paid workers are employed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with your conclusion that more and better IT needs to be in place, but the council must not lose sight of the many West Lothian people of a certain age and over who either don't have access to IT or the knowledge or ability to use it. They are still out there.....please dont marginalize them still further.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There should be consideration given when changing to digital and online services for customers, that not everyone has access to digital platforms for many reasons. Just now, we are in the midst of a cost of living crisis and are coming out of a pandemic, all of which has had a massive impact financially on people who may have already been struggling. People may have computers and other devices such as mobile phones and tablets, however, may not be able to afford to pay for wifi and internet connection. Older people do not necessarily know how to work computers, mobile phones or tablets and therefore are at a disadvantage of services being offered. All of this should be considered before changing services offered to digital.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Definitely as above. The priority has to be those who have least or are vulnerable. The rest of us will muddle through	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, this is moving with the times and needs to be grown beyond £500k saving if there is a return on the investment made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	People should be pushed harder to self serve digitally. Makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Definitely but make sure it's supported. Too often your phone lines go down so there is work required there.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Very much in favour of digital communication, appreciate this may not be easy for everyone and its crucial to make content accessible, but I find it much easier.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree that digital transformation is essential for delivering modern, responsive services to customers. The council has too many processes that are outdated. Hopefully this will be delivered with insight from customers on how they want to conduct business with the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	While digital solutions can improve access to services for some, they can be unsuitable for certain customers, e.g. the elderly and those without easy access to technology. Therefore, access to services must still be accessible to these customers through more traditional means.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Great idea. Just make sure that there is access to a human as technology cannot replace a human making decisions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is difficult to provide substantive comments on this proposal as there is little concrete detail. The aim of the proposal seems reasonable, particularly relating to the greater use of technology and there are good examples of this currently in use, e.g., the booking of a bulky uplift can be made using an electronic form. However, if an increased use of technology is to be made, please do not forget those who do not have access to the internet or who find technology challenging (not always the elderly). There are times when people wish to, and need to, speak to a human being.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This makes sense to automate processes and applications where possible. There must still be some form of human interaction where required if the automation fails or does not deal with exceptional cases or circumstances	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is appropriate - there should remain an option for those who are not digitally literate to access services so a streamlined, non-digital option should be available for our vulnerable communities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	See previous answers. Only things to add is they need to be user friendly and stable. Also need to take into account not everyone uses technology or has varying degrees of competence so there will always have to be the option to talk to someone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology is important, but no match for a person. You need to train staff to use technology and not focus on reducing staff numbers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	needs to be consideration given for those who do not have the ability or finances to have tech at home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated responses and facilities such as digital chat can be very effective. They require a great deal of sophisticated programming to make them work efficiently and effectively.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Important that the Councils needs of those residents who are digitally excluded	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please remember that there is still a number of customers who cannot or do not use online digital solutions	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Great idea to widen options for points of contact, but I would hate to lose the actual people who are there to answer calls on general enquiries. They are very nice and understanding and you feel like you have been heard when dealing with that initial contact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes digital enhancing seems to work better	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	When savings are estimated what are the costs? Digital transformation has to be handled carefully as so many IT projects exceed budget and don't always function optimally. There is a need to balance perceived benefits with the fact that people would still like to talk to human beings, and with the fact that not everyone is equally comfortable with technology or equally connected (e.g. have to avoid digital disenfranchisement).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The general public and particularly older people will always value face to face contact with a service rather than a computer screen with boxes, which usually doesn't provide the answers to their questions. So digital solutions alone may not be the right solution.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I believe this may work within the council as technological is moving forward, however there are still a few elderly who have no computer ect...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated processes - would this be user friendly for All???? Something to think about.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There still needs to be people in call centres etc for customers to speak to. Automated services are fine but speaking to a human can never replace speed and streamlined digital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, just a worry about lots of job losses. While saving money and making a more efficient service sounds good I do wonder if this will ultimately lead to more money being needed in other public areas to support families who have lost their jobs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is important to move with the times while also being mindful of those within our community who may not have access to online services or who do not feeling confident communicating in this way.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology is good while it is working, but although we are trying to improve this the errors encountered is doubling the work loads	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as the elderly and those socially disadvantaged do not lose out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is fine for a lot of the public but not everyone has access to ICT, particularly older and more vulnerable members of the public. This could make some people very isolated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Happy with digital services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Improvement of technology is a must - as us reducing areas like technological hardware repair and re-use rather than buying new and also exploring sustainable models for powering the increase in technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Be aware that not everyone in the community can use digital tools - children, disability groups, elderly. The reduced provision of support for face to face and telephone needs to consider all groups.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Whilst I see it as a good thing that accessibility is At the forefront here, it needs to be done right. As I found lately when my local taxi company went fully automated to book, it doesn't always work. What would be a 5 minute call can take 15-25. I worry that if everything is automated with the council systems, if I have some query that is out of the norm I could be waiting days to get a response. If the system is designed properly and tested to destruction before blindly rolling it out I would see that as a progressive and cost saving step forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as the savings mean that those without on line confidence or contact due to poverty, or age in many cases would then get a better service in person	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation is key to reducing cost. Make sure the systems put in place are fit for purpose.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I already dislike the Council's approach to customer services with regards to increased use of IT. We go to great lengths to provide information in different languages, Gaelic signage evident in many areas, sign language, different fonts etc. etc. and a seemingly inexorable drive to hone our IT expertise to streamline information delivery. However, in this sea of technology, we discriminate against a great number of West Lothian residents - generally those over the age of 70. The best method of accessing services and seeking help for the elderly is by phone. I hope we still provide for our elderly residents by providing telephone access. By not doing this, we are discriminating against them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is a good idea. The digital revolution is allowing businesses and service providers to provide better services at radically lower costs in almost every sector of the economy. The council should be no different	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	OK. But there must be a fallback as not everybody has computer access.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as there is still access for those who are not digitally literate such as older people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This idea does sound achievable but at what cost???? Do the employees who were doing the job get redundancy packages or are they transferred into another role? I worry that we might become too dependent on technology and loose, that personal interaction with human contact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is sensible, but access must be maintained for those who struggle with digital access for a range of reasons.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As mentioned previously, please consider those with less/ no access/ lack of confidence with regards to technology and the Internet. Please ensure service users can still access a human to answers their questions and offer advice.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Introducing automated processes and software such as import email modules will definitely increase the speed in which queries can be dealt with and customers can have a resolution to important and time critical issues, but there still needs to be staff easily available to people who need help and cannot easily use new technology. There is also the issue with any of these new ways of working of problems with simple things such as getting files uploaded without causing problems with attachments being blocked etc. It is fine putting a process in place asking people not to upload anything over a certain file size but most people dont understand this and will just take a photo on their phone and upload. In turn this slows down the process instead of speeding it up as there is no human intervention to help.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	One thing that many customers feedback is that they would like to engage with a human rather than automated responses / interaction therefore customer needs should be prioritised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This could be a positive step for WLC. So many companies now use technology to access their services. I will now always use an online chat function for enquiries or online booking to access a service (gas boiler service, prescription, GP appointment, mobile phone query etc) rather than calling or emailing a company. It may not be everyone's preferred choice but it is a move a lot of companies have made and its quicker to access services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as these digital solutions work, and when they do not, there is a way of contacting someone to take action	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree that a digital transformation is needed in certain areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Whilst I personally have no issue with this approach it is not helpful for the older population who may be technically illiterate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree on the whole but the council must not lose sight of the fact not everyone, especially the older and less affluent members of our community, have access to or are fluent in the use of IT. Systems must ensure that, for example paper applications etc. are still available where wanted /needed / required. There needs too, to be a voice at the end of the phone for people that want /need to speak to a staff member.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agreed. Nobody wants to sit in a phone queue for ages and get an ill informed response. Digital services give consistent and correct responses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, its of utmost importance that people with any difficulty or disabilities are supported to enable them to access any of the services the council provides that they need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	People access services in different ways and it is important that choices are still available for customers. New technology is very easy to access and is a much more efficient way of working. As a result services will cost less to run with fewer staff required. We need to be careful however that everyone can access services easily. In my experience working for a charity services are delivered over the phone and in person most often. The important point is that clients have the choice in how they access the services that they need and what is more comfortable for them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I believe the council is already on this journey and doing well, therefore continuing to invest in digital solutions is a positive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The provision of digital technology like Borrowbox or Libby for library customers is brilliant-technology at its best. But the Cloud Library App isn't great. Provision of new technologies is only good if it actually works well-this applies to all services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	That sounds all and good, if the nature of the service is suited to "digital solutions". ; ; Is West Lothian Council considering removal of any services from within the Parks & Woodland unit and, if they are, what services?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Whilst technologies may be an efficient way of working for many people, there are still people, often vulnerable people, who are unable to manage in this way. It is vital that they are supported by staff who can speak to them and give them additional support as required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is fine in principle but a lot of the elderly, low paid people etc don't have access to computers and like to speak to people face to face. A personal service being taken away.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes, this will be needed at some point and will lead to further cost savings in the future	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If there are more automated services, the staff will be able to undertake more task on their own, but this may decrease efficiency. Maybe not by a massive amount but staff doing more little things themselves eventually does add up. They may want an increase in pay for taking on more tasks and as previously mentioned their efficiency may decrease.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree that there should be more digital systems in place as they make things much simpler and quicker, but will the benefits of this outweigh the benefits of job creation? With the cost of living being so high people cannot afford to lose their jobs. Will the savings made really compare with the damage of unemployment? ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	While this is likely to stream line many processes and make them more efficient, it is important to consider digital access for all, including access to devices as well as access to the internet/broadband	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Making more services online would be more useful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Costs on meetings and travel could be reduced with the use of technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	West Lothian Council talk about investing in digital solutions but are not efficient at training their staff to use the technology. Training staff on the use of digital solutions would certainly make things more efficient.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree that we can put as many services as possible on to a digital platform. However, we must still provide help and support for those who cannot access services digitally. i.e. those with difficulty reading and writing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology is great for helping out the customers but there must always be a human face for those who require it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If you ACTUALLY invest in decent software then it ultimately saves you money in the long run. Too many systems are just awful and don't do what people need them to do. Seemis is the best example of this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	key for ongoing delivery of education. west lothian academy is central to this and maintain breadth of choice and opportunity	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	To achieve efficiencies and have effective deployment then there needs to be resources to work on projects to enable the transformation and it needs to involve the practitioners.; ; General concern where resources are reduced as outlined in section 1a/1b - then more difficult to achieve as many projects to date have relied on officers trying to maintain standard of service and performance in their key role.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as staff engaged with the transformation actual know the inside out of the jobs/roles, the actual usefulness of transformation will be slow, long, and maybe painful for both staff and customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Certain jobs could be replaced or reduced through technology. However, supporting elderly and ASN people should be considered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Customers must be given guidance in regards the use of the new technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology should be used to cut staff time but allow staff to be able to get on with the back end work that is sometimes left due to the time available to complete tasks and that certain figures are not captured to provide this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology should be used to cut staff time but allow staff to be able to get on with the back end work that is sometimes left due to the time available to complete tasks and that certain figures are not captured to provide this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Definitely a positive way forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is a relevant initiative in a digital age when funds are low. However, excessive reliance on technology in the field of education should be avoided at all costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation is important, however, we need to remember with digital technology comes a skill gap, which requires to be filled. In bringing in new technology we also need to make sure we have the right staff in place to support that technology. We also need to support our customers to be able to use and access any digital services we bring in. Without this, we will make no savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This makes perfect sense however, not all customers have access to IT and personal contact with Council staff is a preferred option for some and should still be an option.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all tenants will be able to use digital means to contact the council. I feel that we must keep a point of contact for tenant who do not have the means to contact digitally.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	IT needs to be set up to allow this more model ways of working. Often digital improvements for customers and services are not taken forward as they are classed as not being digitally secure. We need to invest in this before we can save.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We need to keep in mind the age range of the community and many in WL are of elderly age, utilising online services will not be an efficient or effective move. These services are excellent as long as they are running, we need to maintain a strong real workforce that can actually provide some interaction to the public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, fine in theory but needs of those without digital skills must be taken into account	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital is a great way to share information, courses etc but does not replace actual staff. Then there is time allocation for staff to access online or produce online material for the; Public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please ensure this is tested out properly and fully supported by the right number of staff. There's nothing more frustrating than when something doesn't work, or your circumstances don't fit into a specific category and you need to speak to a person to discuss and there is no-one to help you.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes - automation and standardisation of systems and processes is important.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Opinions on this above. The younger generation will happily use the online services however this can not come at a cost to the older generations relying on local drop in's and real conversation with real people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	These technologies need studied, not just bought because its the in fad .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This works as long as alternatives are offered for those who can't access this .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital first is a must but this must be balanced with providing a non-digi approach for those who can't/don't access services in a digital way. This includes my own mother.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I would agree in theory however there should always be a point of contact via phone or in person that would allow you to see someone if you feel the digital platforms are unable to deal with your request	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, sounds sensible although I hope the reduction in staff would not result in compulsory redundancies and that I could still speak to an actual person when I needed to.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council are seen to cut costs but at the cost of our customers. It is paramount that the customer service area is not reduced in numbers as we still require the face to face interaction however streamlining giving a customer the option. We are currently looking to develop this as part of my stream work and we have solutions to help support staff but not reduce the quality efficiency and the customers journey and experience.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Be careful about getting rid of your staff who do the real work. Remove layers of senior managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes, this cost saving of £502,000 needed, please proceed with these changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology can always make for a more efficient service. However, need to take into account those who are unable to use technology and have some alternatives.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good idea and this is the way forward and a major development strategy should be implemented here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I would support the proposal to leverage technology to deliver efficiencies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	everything should be easily accessible from WLC website;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The more digital access the better, there is a great misunderstanding on how tech savvy people of all ages are	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	So long as there is support available for people who are not confident or have the skills to use digital technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Everyone has a phone or laptop or something these days or atleast someone who can help them access technology services. It's essential the council save funds wherever possible to ensure continuity and deliverence of necessary services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please ensure, in making any adaptations here, West Lothian people don't lose the ability to talk with a human being due to maximised use of automated services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree - consider how you will support those not familiar with digital services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again a review of internal systems is overdue as again there is a lot of duplication of work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is great that technology can provide WLC residents with new ways of accessing services, however we have to be mindful that certain demographics either unable to access technology, do not trust the technology or are fearful of using it, especially the elderly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree and think there is significant advances still to be made in moving to digital. However, we have to be clear that this is not in addition to all other ways to access the council and we should aim to streamline these.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There needs to be clear thought about people who are not ready for complete digital solutions as in the older generations and those with complex needs. In this case you need staff with excellent customer service skills and enough of them to allow this section of the public to have faith in the system.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is a good idea as the public become more and more tech savvy, you want to still be able to go about daily business but do tasks easily and remotely.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	A step towards more digital platforms for council services is a positive one, however the lack of provision in our older population does concern me in terms of library services and support for people who prefer to talk to someone face to face.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	While the implementation of efficient technology is generally welcomed it should be remembered that not everyone has access or can utilise technology and we are still in an era where face to face interaction is required. In time this will continue to reduce as generations pass but please remember there will always be vulnerable people who require a personal interaction.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The digital transformation is entirely necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree as long as people who do not have access to a lot of technology (e.g. older people) are not excluded as a result of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with this measure but considerations are required for those with additional needs, disabilities, those with no internet access etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with using technological advances to make savings but please remember those people who don't have access to the Internet and who aren't comfortable with technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If the technology is accessible and fit for purpose then this makes sense. Should not just be a digital version of a service - must be digital by design.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Has WLC taken account of customers who are "digital averse", and what mitigation steps has it in place for such customers?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think this is absolutely necessary and one of the only ways that councils will be able to address budget shortfall in the long term.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation is the future.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digitalisation is increasingly the way forwards, providing that a safety net is in place for those residents who cannot access services digitally - by reason of digital access, digital competency or limited literacy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The proof of the pudding in any savings programme is the quantum in manpower reductions and savings in contractor expenses that the measures generate. This is not set out in the consultation so other than support in principle it is difficult to comment on these proposals in detail.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformations are a suitable response. As in many industries, these can increase productivity and support consistency.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	With today's technology I think this is a good thing but older people may not know how to access these sort of services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is a great idea, but you need to remember the older population many of whom do not use technology and those in poverty who cannot afford the technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Which services? How will user need be identified, and user experience maximised. What budget will be allocated for ongoing support and improvements - improvement to digital services needs to be ongoing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ok as long as the technology has the expected outcome.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is not clear. Are the estimated savings of £502,000 the savings that will be achieved after you have invested in these new digital solutions?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The comment is in the form of a question

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	How much is the initial, investment in these digital solutions and what are the anticipated lifetime operational costs? Is the £502,000 the net annual saving when all investment and operational costs are taking into account?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The comment is in the form of a question
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please ensure that any digital public interfaces are optimised for tablets, phones etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital services must be secure and monitored to ensure they are functioning correctly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There must also be availability for people who cannot use or access a computer to go and get things done.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I consider digital transformation a good thing for council staff and some of the public, but you must also be aware of the ageing population in West Lothian who cannot access a computer and therefore cannot use these services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More efficiency for less cost this should be implemented asap	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please take into account that that is not all residents and rhat those that can't access due to ability or finances are as entitled to access services ad those who can. In a lot of cases, the people who are unable to access digital support are the ones most in need of services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This sounds fantastic for people who are able to access digital communication.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Encompass technology for most council functions for payment of accounts to reporting faults, changes in circumstances	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is all well and good if it works . It shouldn't be solely relied upon	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please ensure that the many folk are not technically competent are nit disenfranchised by this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Most people now prefer online access as it saves wiring in person or over the phone, as long as there is support for those who either don't have internet access or who can't manage to use the internet say via libraries/community hubs this could work well	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Keep IT simple so as many people can use it as possible, don't get too carried away with visuals and making it look top of the range but unusable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	While consolidating and saving money we must still strive for a customer facing environment for customers as not all customers use online facilities and can find them obscure and confusing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More than happy to use these digital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I understand that by having more automated systems it will save the council money but you have to take into consideration the effect it will have on peoples mental wellbeing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Remember to keep it simple! And make sure you have excellent Project Management and are tracking anything that slips - jump on it right away. No excuses from anyone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	A real danger here of losing touch with our residents if this goes too far to fast.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Understandable that processes will update with technology, just remember an ageing population need to feel that they can contribute and contact the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As before ensure staff and services available for those who cannot use or afford up to date technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Investment in digital is required to improve the efficiency of services but we must also be aware that some of our customers still require a non-digital transaction, and the technology must work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It could be the way forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There needs to be consideration for the elderly within the council where technology and automated services may not be as accessible. This could result in a whole section of residents unable to receive the support or services they require.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Only if it works and is continuous updated. Computers aren't as good as people	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology is the way to go if it saves money, but some provision for elderly people has to be made for face to face delivery	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Absolutely technology will help with efficiencies as long as technology is first class and supported. Also for those guiding customers to these digital/online processes are kept in the loop and as up to date as possible. Technology could be used a whole lot more than is used currently. West Lothian seem to be behind other Authorities. Home working also seems to be a lot more successful elsewhere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If the population is aging digital solutions may not be the best use of funding to allow them to access. Council however should be remaining up to speed with new solutions which could provide better service to all. Reducing staff may not be the best solution	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Putting things online does not necessarily make them more accessible so attention would need to be paid to design, access requirements, digital skills gaps and digital poverty. This kind of systems change would need to be designed alongside the people who use it, and come with a huge lead-in in communications and preparation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Fine for younger people but I worry about pensioners as my mum does not have a computer and cannot work one	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think this is definitely required but in a digital age things are getting more expensive and will prove harder to make savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Believe the Council should move with technology and keep up to date with how people require to interact with the Council while also taking into account people's abilities. Are the estimated savings taking into account the investments cost for new technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We could certainly do more with Customer Portals and sign posting to provide efficiencies - this has been talked about for many years.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Happy for new technologies as long as no impact on jobs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Any improvement in digital solutions is welcome, however there is no replacement for the value of speaking to a 'real' person	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	In theory this could be good, but some people are not confident with technology, some don't trust their private information on systems. Also speaking to customers face to face, giving the personal touch is often needed to calm a situation rather than an angry keyboard warrior. I do agree the investment in technology has been very effective through the Covid period allowing us to work more efficiently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Need to be mindful of those that struggle with the internet, we are inadvertently discriminating against them by making it more difficult for them to use our services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technologies need to be efficient and people friendly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This would work if everyone had access to the internet and email. Or support to help people do this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	COVID19 highlighted that for the majority changes can be made e.g. working from home, online meetings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As mentioned previously not everyone has access to or has knowledge of digital services. These are often elderly people Councils should provide access for all people in the area and provide alternative access means. Councils must ensure robust IT oversight and speedy corrective actions where necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as services are not negatively impacted this seems fine. I am dubious however that a multi media service would match the service offered by a human being in most situations requiring nuance.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital is good only if all have access and ability - we must remember our elderly community who cannot often access digital services. Sole digital is not acceptable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Staff will need to be trained on any new technologies so that can use them effectively and in return improve customer services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Its important to embrace technologies that enhance and improve the experience for everyone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Seems sensible to review the internal processes to see if efficiencies can be used. This option provides no detail of the likely impact on a west lothian resident, therefore very difficult to provide meaningful feedback.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as this is done over a erupt of time to allow the public to change their ways of doing things	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sack humans rely on machines	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Some things would be good however not everyone has access to digital and some older members would struggle to use them to report things to the council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More online friendly user systems needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Need to have an easy to access backup provision for those not able to use online services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We need to see more of this, going forward....certainly would help our customers, if we had "fast-food" style walk-in; ordering points in customer centres	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital solutions are great. However, we cannot choose our customers & we then have to provide some alternative provision for those vulnerable people, or to people without the means or capabiity to access these.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If you are going to do it spend the money and do it well. Poor automated services are frustrating and stressful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes, this is wise but it's very important not to lock older people out of accessing the services as they may not have a smart phone or be computer literate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Customers must be able to choose the formats which are best suited to them.; Having personal experience of companies with robotics used to answer questions as opposed to having members of staff is an area where the council should exercise caution. By doing so is likely to lead to more complaints.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as we can access easy help when the system is down	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It's good that the local authority can offer support if a customer cannot apply/engage online, but it does take more staff time to support this. Online learning for particularly the elderly population should be the focus, along with ensuring people have access to the internet.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Although this is positive for the business, reducing staff numbers is concerning as it puts our jobs at risk. ; In addition, not all customers have the ability to use technology confidentially and it may not be accepted well by those in this category unless the council will still be able to offer some level of support to customer that are digitally excluded.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please ensure staff are included in training as this can be overlooked but staff still expected to be able to complete and assist. This has happened with previous training i.e. told to "read the manual"!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital technology is of course the way to go. My concern is how do customers who are not tech savvy access services. Technology is not infallible how would customers be supported?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital streamlining but also thinking creatively and outside of the box.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated services/online services are all great and can help provide efficiencies if they work. Xcite is a good example of when they don't.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes to technology but not at the cost of a human service. The much valuable services from advice shop and connect etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We need to consider the impact that digital only services may have on our customers who are not technologically minded. This could cause more harm than good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Council needs to improve the output of digital transformation efforts. Important value is added from resources the council already has in this area as this will be critically important area for the council over the next five years.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	again this sounds like a good cost effective idea but I worry about the people who would be made redundant due to these changes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Why wait. Just get on with it now	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Generally this is acceptable but there still needs to be staff to help out those citizens who are unable to go digital for financial, health or age reasons.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital progression is by far a more efficient way to provide our services in this day and age.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technologie is great as long as it is working. Again, well trained ppl to make and fix technology in appropriate time scale not to causa backlogs etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree to this as long as there also remains an option for residents to reach an actual person to speak to, as all digital services do have limitations	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again if this is implemented and works 100% in isolation and not double systems old and new then great but it has been in the past that this was not the case. GDPR is also a concern and needs to bring confidence and ease of use when client engagement is involved with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Cost saving is a very attractive influencer that any government institution and other organisations would like to discuss and achieve, but it can lead to other issues and real consequences if not carefully reviewed and planned accordingly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More technology is fine, but let's not forget there are still people in the community who either cannot or have not the means of dealing with digital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	All companies are looking at digital transformation. What provisions will be put in place to support vulnerable customers?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital is the future but must be overlooked and kept upto date and ust friendly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As before, greater use of IT should lead to efficiencies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think this seems like a sensible option	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If you can simplify the process 1 log in for all services, amazing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is very sensible and good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with modernisation	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Completely in agreement	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital Transformation makes a lot of sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Modernising the council and the way it interacts with its customers and the way that customers can engage with the council is a positive step forward. Within the private sector a number of innovations have been deployed, of which some have been controversial (in the short-term), giving savings delivery and further opportunities. This should be replicated within the council to build on tried and tested models. For example removal of cheques and cash handling, more online information/self-help, less staff involvement in processes, chat bots, social care technologies etc. The proposals seems like something that should be happening as part of usual council business change/modernisation and not requiring specific consultation. However, a positive step in modernising as long as council officers are willing to adopt and implement (themselves as well as promote).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as access to services is not compromised	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council needs to embrace digital transformation, automation and better use of data, not only to deliver efficiency but also to deliver improved services for our customers. We have experts in transformation, service design and automation who are able to assist service managers with this work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If digital happens it has to be very user friendly and taught to those who are digitally naive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Welcome anything that can be one self service / online, reducing anything sent through the mail.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ideal but please allow for 60 plus 70 plus and 80s and people with disabilities who don't know how to use social media internet etc let alone mobile phones	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Move with the times	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Need to consider aging population in any decisions and that they may be limited with access to technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes, but must be accessible to all, especially older age groups.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As mentioned above, reducing essential personnel can cause more issues than it solves. Training these people in digital solutions so that their jobs can be streamlined but still part of this process, which for some is vital to have someone to support, would be a more viable solution without the loss of jobs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This seems to be a sensible way forward provided it doesn't disenfranchise people who prefer face to face interaction.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	i would be happy to work with an electronic to get the answers I need rather than a real person	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I would be happy to have an electronic device to get the help I need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, efficiencies should be found where possible but the councils customers needs should not be ignored. The majority may be of an older generation who are not as familiar with technology as some members of the community so it may require time to transition services to the desired position.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As per first comment, digital first is great as long as it works and you can get in contact with someone when needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As everything evolves and changes overtime why should our jobs not change too?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital Transformation will remain to be the key in successful modernization of the council. Let's don't be scared of innovation and Artificial Intelligence or Data, as a matter of fact. Let's embrace it through the Digital and Automation Journey. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with updating. There are a few members of society that this won't be easy to navigate so a human touch, should still be there if this is needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again with modern technology employee levels inevitably fall that is the nature of the beast. But in business the once the initial set up costs are done the savings soon outstrip the costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ok but remember that older people can't always use IT well	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Beware hidden costs and future ongoing developments needed. Ensure competitive but careful tendering and realistic planning to keep to budgets.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Investment in automation will be crucial to ensuring the council can deliver its services efficiently in the future. Developing customer service channels will also help to support those who need it at the point of use, no matter where they are. Web chat and similar could help to provide this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is fine for me but not for some elderly people that are unable to access services online. Also, online services ultimately have to be managed by people. When I book repairs online, inevitably, I get a phonecall seeking to confirm bookings so wouldn't it be more logical just to have the phonecall.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	GDigital solutions have their place however there are many people who are unable to access services due to capacity issues or affordability. Others may nstruggle with communicaton issues and become frustrated, there is a place for face to face engagement	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Highly support the digital journey, but not all people have the skills to go on that journey with you	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think in certain areas within services that WLC still struggle to fully utilise the full opportunities to utilise digitalisation for the end users. Initial investment will be higher, however processes will be improved and savings made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agreed. Although access needs to be in every area. le dedridge, murieston, Ladywell craigshill.; For those who are unable to walk far and cannot afford to access public transport	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Definitely a great approach to embrace this and make savings on salaries where possible but this will need to be done tactfully, ensuring that remaining staff are properly trained to assist people with all of the challenges and to feel empowered in their own work and ability to embrace the changes and thrive in their role.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	this is good, this is how our customers now work and if we can match the demands or go past the demands then it will come out well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council appears to have been slow to automate. In the main, customers should be encouraged to access services in the manner cheapest for the council. Most customers will be happy to self-serve if the systems or information is easily navigated to support this. As long as the increased choice and accessibility doesn't end up requiring a higher cost base to support it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Need to ensure that new IT services are fit for purpose, quick and easy to use. You also need to ensure that someone will answer the phone when needed when IT goes wrong or does not direct you to the correct department	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sensible plans	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good idea. But be aware that technology projects always take longer, and cost more, than initially estimated. So the savings may not be as high as estimated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	In favour of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Just achieve the saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	About time	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Just stop wasting money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Go for it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This sounds like a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Absolutely agree this is essential and all staff to buy in to get customers engaged in this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Improved It services is always welcome.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This sounds like a positive plan.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good move.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree - offering more services through digital platforms could help with the flexibility for contact however there still needs to be provision for those who need to speak with a person rather than automated services. Automated processes don't cover every scenario.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Necessary	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I support this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with this proposal if it's was user friendly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good idea. Maximise this saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Thsts fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Seems ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Very happy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Thoroughly support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	agree more online systems	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes this sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This sounds good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Essential	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Though this would be great, it's only as good as the digital processes put in place. You can't just change something because you can - you need to look at ways of changing the processes that take the most resource and planning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is only appropriate in some areas, where a push button option is appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This could be very beneficial providing there remains access to human support for those not computer literate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	am all for technology as long as it get used to its fully and training is given on it .;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	i agree with this as a lot very aware of digital but i am very mindful of the elderly that have no clue in this area	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	there should be a variety of platforms to interact with customers however any approach still needs to be trauma informed and whilst the use of new technology can enhance roles and services some services still need to work with very vulnerable people at risk where building a relationship with the person is key.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There are some service areas where technology would enhance and support more streamlined activity and create efficiencies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digitisation and aotimation where possible is a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Cost saving is vital and it is important the council services remain modern and relevant on both nature and point of access. It is important to consider equity of access across the authority and whether all residents are able to navigate digital services. The impact of human contact can also not be underestimated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Investing in digital solutions is a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	automated services are good depending on the service and age of participant	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	automated services are good depending on the service being offered. This could reduce cost. The elder generation may still need face to face customer services as may not have the knowledge on how to use technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	automated services are good depending on the service but the older generations may need face to face service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	automated services are good to have for some services. The elder generation may still need face to face service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	automated services are good depending on the service and age of participant	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	elders may still need face to face help as they may not know how to work technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated services are a good thing, depending on the service older generation may still require face to face service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	automatic services are good depending on the service and age of person.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated services are good depending on the service and age of participant	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	current website for council tax etc works well and is easy to operate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If this made systems faster / easier it would be better	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Everything is online now	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	While this may seem like a good idea in principle, it can potentially exclude or make access to people or services more difficult, particularly the elderly, disabled and people who have fallen on hard times who struggle with resources to access.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again I'm all for using technology to make things easier for members of the public like me to use and access services, as long as it doesn't mean staff lose their jobs unnecessarily	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	OK so long as the reduction in access to people doesn't mean more costs elsewhere if people can't get the answers they need	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As before, don't buy cheap. Buy smart. Future proof these tech and ensure its fit for purpose.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Need to be able to meet the needs of people who are not savvy with tech (such as the elderly). A hybrid model where people can speak to a human also need to stay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This has to be done now or later anyway.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Move to electronic services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No everyone is online, especially older people. This sort of changes should be as well as and not instead of.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is good however how will it impact the elderly?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Someone has to manage this and an outsourced team will manage the software	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Of course online is the way to go and money needs to be invested.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If investment is to streamline processes and save money, OK, but have to bear in mind that not everyone is digitally aware so would still need alternatives in place	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As indicated above not all have access to digital inclusion, so balance needs to be struck, potentially advancement of more online would be beneficial and progressive, again balance to be achieved as long as measures to do not exclude those unable to access.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with self service and digital approaches for those who are able to engage in these	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Cheapest IT does not mean more efficient or effective service- needs to be systems /services that are viable and reliable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	yes modernise, cut meaningless jons	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	its very important to give customers different channels to engage	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all customers are at ease using digital technology a friendly voice at the end of the telephone is also very important to our customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Shame this is not a std response every year. Technology should be used always to reduce costs and improve what services we get.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is a good use of technology. How will those customers who either don't have access to up to date digital systems or are unsure how to use them appropriately access services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again it is not great however we need to move with the times and look at cost effective savings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This description is not really expanding on what you actually plan to do other than cut back on resources and use technology to engage with the community more.; Face to face support works best is my view.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	while i understand digital access is a progression and has its benefits, not everyone has access to digital platforms ie internet, computers, mobile phones. in the present financial climate and cost of living crisis the number of people having access may drop so there has to be provision in place for customers who require direct contact with staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree. There needs to be more investment in council IT systems as current systems are poor and out of date.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Using bots to do jobs of people is fine, where that is appropriate. Ensuring those with digital poverty are not left behind is essential, especially where they need to access care provision or other means of supporting themselves. Places like the advice shop and other front facing services should remain as much as possible person focused, to gather information and properly advise, with better linking between services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Working from home to eliminate heating and lighting in buildings ; .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think WLC should be moving forward with technology but always be mindful that not all or WLC residents can use technology due to age, cost etc and still require face to face assistance	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We have to move with the times and digitalisation is a way forward. We have also to be careful of too much cuts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I appreciate that digital & technical advances must be explored and embraced. There is always a challenge in how the "end users" will be able to cope with advances in technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital processes need to be simpler. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is fine as long as people can use technology. No everyone can do this and need to make sure that you don't isolate people. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There are a lot of digital innovations that can be employed but I would not want to see that happening at the detriment of vital services provided in person.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ideal for people with online access, however, the cost of living crisis will mean people switching off from data etc, meaning people will be unable to access services. If rolling blackouts do come to pass, how do people contact in emergencies. Also older people rely on face to face services as a point of contact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think we should look at the digital platforms the council currently use??? Involve the IT team to re design software to reduce cost and implement the same amount of information going out to the public	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This sounds very reasonable but It is disingenious to ask people to comment on such a broad proposal with far too little detail for anyone to give an opinion on - it constitutes tick box consultation. It is difficult to argue with the broad principle outlined but it very much depends on how it impacts on people - reducing staff can often mean that the only method of communication is online and in many organisations this causes much greater inefficiency/no help at all for the customer/client.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Long over due, digital options may cost in the short term but will same a lot going forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, long overdue. We live in a changing world.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	New systems must be fit for purpose. It is essential that users still are able to access services through non digital or automated means. For example, if you require people to make appointments to attend offices face to face, then you must have an appropriately manned line to do so, it is inadequate at the moment.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Although automated services are efficient not all people, e.g elderly /disabled may struggle to use these and possible not have access to them, I think this need to be taken into consideration.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please keep system for real people to answer emails if information customer is looking for is not available in automated response	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital is good for some but some older people still need face to face contact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More digital	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I hope careful thought is being put into the potential negative impact on customers who are not able to utilise technology to access services (ie elderly).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This will have to be a simple and effective solution which is easily accessible for the public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As with 1A, a good idea in theory but with the caveat that it doesn't exclude the most vulnerable from accessing services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital technology is good, however there is times when a person to speak to is better than an automated system	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree that digital transformation is required but this has to be done with enough time and training to allow staff to be fully comfortable with systems prior to rolling out for public use. Continue to have the option of face-to-face support for people who aren't regular users of digital technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This makes sense provided that digital services are truly accessible and provide the service as designed. What about the digitally excluded?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You need to ensure that the staff are capable of using digital systems and that new systems are used to their full potential. Too often new systems come in and only part of them are used for whatever reason.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again sounds good and will be required for future but please don't forget the value of face to face work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More digital access for customers is the way we interact with our customers. But we can't leave those that are not computer literate, have no access to technology or like doing things 'the old-fashioned way'.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	While it is useful to have services available online, it must be remembered that not all members of the public can afford to be online or have the literacy skills to understand. I know that face to face appointments and telephone calls may still be available but are much more difficult to access than before.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Only works if your end user has access to on line services etc. Elderly people are at a loss if they cannot use these	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation must be supported with high quality staff training and ongoing support for both staff and customers who interact with digital interfaces.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Robotic Process Automation & AI are technologies that have to be considered as part of Digital Transformation. Changes to back-office processes and the way people work can bring fundamental benefits in reduction in staff costs and further efficiencies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please ensure that the services are easy to use and also ensure that some customer service advisors remain for our more vulnerable customers: not everyone will be able to use the council's automated platforms and will need a real person to speak with to ensure they can get access to the service(s) they require.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, digital transformation has been on the agenda for some time and many benefits to customers have been achieved so struggling to see how much more can be done. If the council is serious about digital transformation, its own internal systems should be the focus as they are a significant barrier to efficiency.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Make any enquiries easier and ensure that people can access all information with the use of one click	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As much automation internally & externally should be used.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Although agree that there is a need to make best use of emerging technology, the Council website is not user friendly and is clunky and difficult to find anything. There is too much reliance on the website compared to developing smart phone apps to, for instance, report potholes and fly tipping with location tracking or Streetview. This does not need to be developed from scratch as there are a number of other LAs doing this already and would no doubt be willing to share expertise on this. ; Using the phone service has you going through automated option which rarely gets you to the right people and can take so long people give up. Is this tracked to improve performance?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council website is intended to keep West Lothian residents informed about council services and the local area and also, it provides them with access to the council services that they need (for those who wish to transact with the council online). The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	But also take into account the older demographic that may not have access or understand new tech.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More use of digital solutions is welcome. You should look at using smart apps instead of relying on just your website which is quite difficult to navigate and find things. Some of the webpages are clunky and need reviewed,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Only concern is that the access to services does not exclude elderly who are not as proficient with technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Further development of digital technologies is very important	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council needs to forge ahead with Digital changes - automation and use of data should be a priority for improving services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We have to go digital to reduce buildings and travel. It is more cost effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is good, however it needs to be acknowledged that there is a large demograph within West Lothian who will not be able to engage digitally. Additionally, any digitally provided service must have a smooth process behind it, with clear steps identified in order to alleviate any frustrations regarding a "less human touch"	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree. Also need to support those without access to technology or who find it difficult to use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If implemented properly this will be beneficial but companies all over the world have attempted and failed due to poor planning where they haven't considered the impact on the customer or researched the things that are asked most often or may require human help.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Provision of digital services should not be to the exclusion of analogue services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	yes save but what is the cost of this saving?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I'd also like to be able to speak to a person about my queries, chat bots might be nice but it is not as intuitive as a human.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Right to invest but not everyone is digitally literate so don't forget them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This sounds good but to do it properly will surely be very expensive in first place. Is this properly costed?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	A reduction in staff costs'- fortunately, technology does seem to have latterly gotten better, with gains in performance at quite possibly lower expense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital technologies are only good if you customers have the means to access them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If it works great, but I have lost count of the amount of times I have accessed the website to arrange for repairs/uplifts etc & the system is down, resulting in a frustrating wait to call into the call centre during my working hours	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Whilst digital services are more apt for many residents in West Lothian for many this is not something that can be used. Those with literacy issues, the elderly and those who can not afford to access digital services. My concern would be that those unable to work with the digital life would be left further isolated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	good, your website can be "clunky" at times. However a more streamlined online access to the council shouldn't be an excuse for not being able to speak to someone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I've found that the council's digital solutions, at least in relation to recycling, waste disposal, and also planning permission applications, have generally been user friendly and fit for purpose over the last three years. If digital solutions can be applied to other areas of council business while still maintaining functionality then this could be an area in which saving could be made. However, the acceptability of any changes depends on which processes or services might be automated and that is not explained in the consultation so far.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Services will need to be reviewed end to end and not just tinkered with around the edges if proper long-term transformation is required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Systems changes inevitably involve a period of uncertainty, teething troubles - good communication goes a long way to helping with this and users more likely to be patient if they know what to expect (so, thanks for being open about an impact on customers). I appreciate that reducing staff numbers saves money but often such short term 'gains' for the organisation are lost when people with expertise and experience leave (these can't be replaced by a system).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Copying my comment from IA as there are similarities: I think that digital solutions can be beneficial, however, staff 'on the ground' who know current systems, it's pros and cons, what works and what doesn't need to be listened to. Consultants may need to be brought in to co-ordinate systems changes but I've worked in big organisations that pushed forward big changes to systems where the consultants offered 'shiny baubles' but end product wasn't fit for purpose. Do not dismiss anything as 'just' operational!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation is definitely required to ensure continuous improvement. Similar to comments in 1A, there could be a risk that additional requirements from a digital perspective puts increased pressure onto current systems etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	That's fine for those members of the public who can access services online, for example. The technology should be a tool to aid people to do the job, not to replace people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is the key to providing council services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This sounds reasonable but hopefully due consideration will be given to customers who cannot access technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Updating technology to meet customers' needs is a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sounds like a plan that any modern business would implement when there is a budget deficit. WLC should be no different	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I would fully support this, though it remains important to be able to speak to an actual person when required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think that it is very important that the council invests in robust and use friendly digital services to ensure that customers can engage with the council in the same, simple ways in which we can in many other sectors.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More and more people are using digital means to pay for services. I think this is a good way to save money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As per above IT cost to implement, does your saving take this into account?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	How much needs to be spent to adopt technologies needed as apposed to the savings its estimated to save?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again sounds reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This should be done but you have to bear in mind that some people are not digital savvy so they will still need help which should be available to them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with modernization till a point that it does not negatively effect the customer journey and does not leave the vulnerable behind.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The elderly residents need to be prioritised in the planning of this as they get left behind because they do not use the latest technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We definitely need to be better equipped in schools with more/better digital technology, however this should be along side teachers not instead of. Children wouldn't cope without a teacher to guide and support them. We saw the effects of this in lockdown.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is working to ensure access to devices where relevant
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with this proposal as long as an option is available to speak to staff if people need it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	In order for technology to take the place of human labour, it needs to be fit for purpose. Surely there needs to be significant investment into the technology to improve what is already in use? How much investment will be required to save £502,000?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Fine, if people have access to the technology. What if they don't?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	One of the Council's strengths is it's customer service - ensure digital offerings are properly supported by expert staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is fine but there are households that don't have easy access to internet and emails	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital. Technology- give customers the option of these and good old fashioned ability to speak to someone who is actually able to help.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as there remains a way to speak to someone if needed, this sounds fine. It is important, however, to remember that in some instances, people feel more reassured speaking to someone in person, particularly if there is a potential financial impact to them personally. Also, accessibility options need to be there for those less able/familiar with technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology is fantastic when it's working however you will always need a backup of people with pens & paper in case it all goes wrong	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as you can still speak to a human! It's already hard enough to speak to human and it's very frustrating.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation is important . It should be use as a toll of headcount reduction	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Fully support savings in this area and would encourage any efforts to expand these. Think the council should look to limit means of accessing services where possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Any investment in Digital Transformation project requires additional resource, we need to make sure we have resource investment in any digital project to help drive the efficiency forward.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think this is a good way to save but it needs to be accessible for everyone and older people or those with disabilities may need support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree with this proposal as long as online is user friendly with clear explanation	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is essential for the council keep up to date with new technology but relying on technology in place of in person or phone conversation may alienate members of the community such as elderly and those on low income.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital for forms, fees, etc. is fine so long as there are alternatives for those without access. ; ; Again, children need human teachers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	as long as dont end up in a digital circle - unable to escape it to speak to someone if the automated system does not give the information/answer needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology should be updated but again it shouldn't be seen as a replacement for face to face communication, call centre messages and chat bots aren't helpful in an emergency situation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digitisation is good where appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ensuring residents have access to technology is crucial to ensuring this would be an effective change. There is no point in providing online-only services if people lack the knowledge or ability to access them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree that the council should improve how they use technology and should increase automation for customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please still allow those older or vulnerable users the options to speak to someone direct	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Such savings won't come immediately, indeed investment in digital services could result in costs increasing before decreasing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I feel excellent websites and technology serves a lot of the public. A small help desk in the local library or partnership centre would be good for older people or those who don't have a device.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Greater use of digital services should be considered	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More use of digital and technology is the way forward but also need to ensure no one left behind, so not digital or nothing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Effective use of modern technology is essential for excellent service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as the system covers all types of responses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There must also be provision for people to access services without technology, for those without. It shouldn't be difficult to speak to someone on the phone, for example, when required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital services can be a good thing but there are people in West Lothian who are unable to use these technologies , elderly, people with learning difficulties	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This sounds reasonable and in time with current digital progress worldwide	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Having access to more meetings on teams rather than face to face will save a lot of travelling and also reduce the need for so many pool cars and claims for mileage	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not enough progress has been made by services in this area. Still too many paper-based processes and inefficient and expensive systems being propped up by services who cannot make the time to review their processes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Although there is a need to move forward in the digital age an automated service can be problematic for the elderly, people with learning and physical disabilities. People who find it difficult to use an automated system may feel there is a barrier between WLC and themselves. Automated systems need to be user friendly and less time consuming to access the service required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digitalisation can be very useful and some customers will prefer this however we must not isolate those that do not have access to use these services, are not comfortable with them. ; ; Sometimes you actually need to speak to a human being.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Be good to have up to date digital services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As above it hard to say without more information but digital 'solutions' often hinder the customer and move the issue further down the line. We have all had to go through frustrating automated systems when it would be simpler to speak to a person or given up on doing something because the automated process isn't fit for purpose. I'd be wary that digital transformation, done badly, won't support some people, usually the old or less able.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	A good idea though has the risk of anyone who is unsure of using technology is marginalised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Although this can produce great savings not everyone has access to online facilities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think automated services can be useful to handle general enquiries but do believe that there is still a large requirement to talk to a real person and that it needs to be an easy process to do so, especially, but not exclusively for those not so technologically minded like many of the elderly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	100% improve digital services and remove manned helpdesks	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I don't think investing in automated technologies will necessarily lead to a reduction in staff costs but it will likely make processes more efficient and take a lot of manual, time consuming tasks away from staff which will allow them to spend their time on more important areas and allow us to streamline a lot of work that is carried out on a day to day basis. We may even be able to remove some systems due to automating workflows which would lead to a reduction in cost. From a customer point of view, they would receive faster replies/processing of requests which is always good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As said, while more people might be accessing digital services, there's a sizeable proportion of the population who have poor digital skills and/or no access to technology - how will these people be considered in any move towards technology based solutions? What is the satisfaction rates with proposed technological solutions? Things like chatbots can be frustrating for customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Explore all digital means as a cost saver.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More online forms/enquiries/requests/payments, but still have the ability for people to complete paper forms/face to face/telephone enquiries as not everyone has the means to do things online	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital transformation is certainly the forward as long as consideration is given to customers who struggle with the technology needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This seems a sensible approach and important to link in digitally in a way that the general public are comfortable with. However, recognition that some groups struggle with digital platforms and the cost of living crisis is likely to mean some in the community won't have internet access at how. So arrangements must ensure no one falls between the gaps.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	A positive move but the sections of community that struggle with access to technology should not be forgotten. Our hardest to reach and most deprived communities have to be supported more as the cost-of-living increases. Possibly through more services in those communities and not less	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes this is essential. Using consultancies based in Scotland with local capabilities and local skills to partner with.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes a good idea which ask has an environmental impact . However it projects are known to overrun, has this been considered and to what level May this happen?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You need to ensure that there are alternatives for people that do not have access to computers, and cannot access your buildings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital communication is great when you can find what you want, but a nightmare when you can't and wastes so much time. Other ways of contact must be in place for those who can't cope with the digital world.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Just need to make sure there is still a way for elderly or vulnerable individuals to be able to contact you on the phone or face to face in a timely manner	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Whilst automation is the future and has its benefits, and COVID has proven that digital transformation has enabled to reduce office space and travel time, however with the public having the opportunity to engage with a person is invaluable. I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Supportive of things that encourage greater use of technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everything should go digital as some of your customers are not able to use technology. ; There should still be an Avenue available to contact the council via non digital means	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technologies put in place still need sufficient support by staff - not too much reduction of staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Everyone uses computers now so having more digital services is always going to be better and quicker. That would decrease a lot of cost on staff and paper, postage etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is entirely depended on the stability and accessibility of the digital services and whether or not ENOUGH manual services remain to support customer who can't or choose not to use them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as it does t take away the people from certain. Areas. Not everyone likes.to talk to a machine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This needs to be simple and easy to use as not everyone is competent with technology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree, we need to adopt to technology to delivery programs and processes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Commitment to ensuring digital services for schools and education establishments should be the priority here as well as supporting the frail elderly and most vulnerable in our communities. Those that can pay for digital services should pay for it. On that note however investment in technology where it is cost effective, this should be approved.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No problem with this as long as its noted that not all Customers are IT knowledgeable ie Pensioners and would still be some kind of phone service to help people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Exactly what should be happening. Any saving based on a more digital approach is a saving worth making.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	All savings that can be made which enhance the services provided would be welcome	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There are still a few older folk out there who do still like paper. I am all in favour of digitising as much info as possible providing all contact details are up to date.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Try getting up-to-date tech	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, depending on the digital solutions implemented additional technical resource may be required to support and maintain the solution	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council will adopt technologies that will deliver automated processes.... ; Everyone hates automated services when they want to speak to someone. Explain why automation is necessary or you will get lots of complaints. Don't automate things that are irregular, it is too complicated and wont work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More digital transformation sets up for future	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Perfect for customers who work and cannot access services who work 9-5 but need to have support in place for elderly and for when problems arise.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Of course the Council will need to 'go digital' [even more than it has already] but at every level and in every service please test all services with 'how is this for a non-digital or digital dinosaur customer/service user?' I reckon that some of us could be around for another 15+ years and we are very slow learners. In stressful situations and difficulties our digital confidence evaporates and sometimes this can seriously impede access to services/information.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Once again reducing staff is not the way forward and the idea of it absolutely disgusts me while we are going through so much hardship. The council should be looking to improve their current technologies as they are shoddy at best	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not going digital and making your processes more efficient now will cost more in the long run. More efficient self service, via intuitive digital customer journey design will take a lot of pain out of the way people interact with your organisation and the many areas within but you have to get it right - people are used to slick customer journeys nowadays.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Money will initially need to be spent in this area in order to ultimately cut costs. The technology must be fit for purpose and effective.; Staff need decent technology to work from home with.; As much as possible systems need to be digital.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Encouragement of the use of on-line enquiry forms with on-line maps and photos etc added. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is all very good but with an ageing public they need people not automated answers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital Transformation has benefits but there also needs to be ways for older people and other harder to reach people, who do not have or know how to use technology, to have an appropriate level of access to council services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Development of digital services would provide me with better ways to deal with the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Must remember older people may not use the internet and provision must be made for them too.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Get expert (this does not mean expensive Expert)involved earlier before investing into any digital change as this would save a lot in long term. I could lend my services for free to specify what changes are needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We must embrace new technologies to reduce costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Similar comment to above, digital transformation is to be expected, but the intuitiveness of some online provisions is not there. As a digitally savvy person, I struggle. How will you ensure those less familiar with digitisation can use the services they need?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree that we need to move with changes in technology, but please do not do so at the expense of the many you serve who cannot adapt to technology. There needs to be an adequate mix of ways of working until the generations catch up with technological approaches. And it can be more efficient to just talk to someone to get the answer that is needed, so please keep options available.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More and more businesses are progressing this way, good idea for local authorities to do the same.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I support the use of technologies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital solutions for some may work but not for everyone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	At face it would seem like a good idea. You need to ensure automation is actually user friendly and efficient. Consideration needs to be had for people who are less comfortable with digital technologies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If the Council's very limited ability to answer phones is any guide, you will have to improve implementation of digital solutions significantly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Being honest but respectful, staff that are needed to use phones or speak to people face to face, don't always have people skills, so reducing this could in fact allow companies and individuals use services provided by the council more effectively	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	About time	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with proposal- any restructuring should improve inclusiveness of pupils	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sounds a good plan	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Continue to digitally evolve.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As per 1A, sufficient staffing should be retained to minimise impact on customers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	2.Local online markets for allowing growth for small scale business and easy and cost effective access for buyers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Through the Council's Business Gateway Service support is tailored to meet the needs and requirements of individual businesses.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Agree with this, however, services need to be better aware of the package of support available in order to review the way they currently maximise the use of digital solutions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	this is forward thinking as in todays world automated processes and multi-media customer services are the future, unfortunately this does have an impact on staff and it is inevitable that there will be some reduction. I would believe some of this may be covered by natural attrition with staff leaving or retiring	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This works if there is proper investment in the technology and staff available when the technology fails, or where people without access to technology are appropriately supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digitalisation is the way forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is difficult to quantify as a resident- as the service provider we have to trust you to manage funds appropriately.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	To go HighTech impacts on the human aspect of service delivery- so why not , if it saves money. However, if the balance of the delivery of service is out of kilter, then savings will be quickly lost. I wish you well: I am 80 years old, when working i held among others The certificate for Honeywell Mainframe Systems Applications.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Imperative that telephone and face to face access to services are provided for those who cannot access digital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital solutions are the future but it is replacing people. Many council service users need people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More digital Service are ok if you have a good internet access. My area has poor connection and data is expensive. I have to come on the bus to use computers in the library.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If the access to information is made simple far too often there are too many layers before we find what we are looking for	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This looks like staff cuts under a different name, either by cutting jobs or wages.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	At this present time a generation of people need face to face contact to deal with their requests. As a certain generation are not digitally aware a face to face service becomes essential in these times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Further introduction of 'automated' service need support. We already have some parts of the service that suffer due to them being automated. The vast majority of real people like to be dealt with by 'real people' removing the human element will exclude certain members of the community (eg older people, foreign nationals etc) - We should not go down the route of automating all council contact and service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This only increases choice to those who can access these platforms. There are several who prefer and have no choice but to use face to face appointments	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	95% of my clients due to health issues and age would need advanced simplified technology that literally works by itself where they don't have to reprogramme or sign in for this to work for them. Is there Robots that look like humans that can empathise, and wash and dress individuals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone has access to a computer or understands how to use automated services this needs to be taken into account when redesigning any service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	our population is an ever-aging one with many unable to access computers and online services. streamlining these impacts on them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The cost of modernising any service must not be borne by making cuts to deliver said efficiencies.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As stated above: If more technology is being brought in, rather than staff, not everyone is necessarily able to use these technologies, whether they have digital skills or not and many don't have any digital skills.; Plus, using more technology drives people out of jobs. This may save the council money but won't help the workers, especially in the current economic climate and will drive up the unemployment figure in West Lothian	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More people loosing there jobs during a cost of living crisis ...well done	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Consider how inclusive this is - for those who are reluctant to seek help online, or who do not have access to the internet at home, will they still be able to receive support in a timely manner?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The more and more we go down this route, the less faceless we become to the public who should be encouraged to deal with us directly as it will add additional mental health problems if you take away them being able to see someone - have a chat - gets them out their house for a bit of sanity. They used to say robots will take over and if feels like we're heading down that route just to be able to tick a box and get rid of staff just like that after them possibly working for years working their socks off delivering the service that the public want. There are thousands of the public who can't manage on line forms new technologies and have problems with disabilities / health issues etc who rely on us to help them get what they are entitled to so that's a big problem and if it's hard to get further information from them to complete applications for benefits etc so what's the chance of automation working	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Impossible to speak directly to staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Remember not everyone has the ability to text/email/webcam, etc so face to face contact is paramount. System redesign, etc should be aimed at improving efficiency and not causing more delays due to complexity. Everyone who needs to should be able to talk to someone in person during normal working hours at a location that is easily accessible (not everyone drives!).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	not every one can use technology and some cant afford the extra bills so keep the option to do it in writing or in person otherwise thats discrimination. the few times iv been in a bank recently and seen some old dear having bill problems only to be told they need to do it online makes me want to take those companies down by any means.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Still need to keep frontline staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think this organisation is sadly lacking in this area. It seems that we have constant system issues with our existing systems with long winded and time -consuming workarounds often being put in place, there is little or no discussion/consultation between service areas resulting in multiple systems which do not integrate with each other and do not take into account the needs of the customer. The current process to "automate" some CSC calls seems to have changed course and is now about improving forms on CRM- how is that even classed as automation, in fact this is a step backwards and not forwards as the web browser version that we are moving to is unable to handle e-mail traffic. How will this facilitate the required savings and reduction in staff needed to meet those savings?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital poverty exists while she can get low cost services most cannot , many issues can be dealt with quickly face to face while a single click can take days to sort out	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as redundancies are on a voluntary basis or other positions are made available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Council need to realise not everyone is comfortable or has access to digital technology	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	same comments as before- not sure if the plan will work and be value for money/save and keep efficiency.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As above. Many of your most vulnerable customers (elderly, physically and/or mentally disabled and those with communication issues will not be able to cope with increased use of technology or having to travel longer distances on low income to meet in-person (particularly now bus services are about to be cut again).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Spend more to save less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Not enough detail in the proposal

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone is digitally confident and pushing more services this way could alienate the elderly and other vulnerable people in the community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again what would happen to the people currently within these jobs? Will they be redeployed elsewhere within the authority structure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As a wlc tenant I prefer speaking to customer service agents via the phone rather than using the online options and I am concerned for the older generations who are not confident with digital technology will they still be able to access services in the way they are used to doing so	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You have not explicitly said how you intend to do this.; Staff redundancy? Would cost an enormous amount of money. Technology costs a lot of money. Lot's of nice words but no actual strategy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council has already cut staff back to the bone through TYC. There are very few people left to deliver qualitative services. Employees are working long hours and sickness absence is on the increase due to stress and anxiety.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated technologies are not always accurate. You can't replace physically speaking to someone, there is also a lot of time wasted on waiting to get through, the device not understanding etc. Older people likely to struggle.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As before, the people on the ground are best placed re this. They know the information they need. The public hates automated systems for a reason, they don't work properly with Scottish accents. Nor do you necessarily have a menu that gets the person where they want to go. Elderly members of the public do not like using these services, they want to talk to a person. False economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Eventually good for service, but probably fictional savings as the cost of automating the services will far exceed expectations unless properly estimated by an experienced team without ulterior motives.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You provide services, services are customer focused, digital transformation is not always the best way to go, as many private sector organisations have discovered. The services you provide require people to provide them get rid of high salaries with least positive impact and the provide better customer focused services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	IT alone is not the solution. Large parts of the public still cannot or will not engage via online services. They must not be excluded.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone is comfortable with all the digitalisation taking place - "real" people cannot be replaced purely by going all digital; Reduce the top tier of all management positions - too many are duplicated	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The team I work in is already fully online. So I would struggle to understand how further cuts can be made through technology. Our customers are also feeding back that they would prefer not to deal with us through self service and automation as much of the legislation we deal with is very technical and will vary from job to job so cannot easily be dealt with through tick boxes and online tools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The older generation and vulnerable is left behind with digital.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Saving £502,000 but how much to set up? Joke	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again where and how? Not enough information. Are you getting rid of call centre, customer information centre and library staff and forcing people to contact you via chat, email and via the website? If so, this is NOT inclusive and will impact the elderly, disabled, carers, low income families and people with limited computer literacy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Imagine the worst person with technology that you know, now assume a large number of people relying on your services are even worse with technology. This just passes the burden on to other services to provide assistance with the technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The poorest and elderly in West Lothian will become increase disenfranchised as they cannot access technologies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	cutting cost and council jobs to line your own pockets is not the way to go with many of these services unaccessible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ehat about the elderly that do not have access to computers?!?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What exactly will change? Everything already is by email or phone. Will there now be FAQs and nothing else i.e. no human contact? If so dreadful idea both I terms of job losses and assistance for vulnerable members of the community. Basically emergencies will end up with Police or some other body just passing on costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Need to remember an ageing population do not always have access to or knowledge of how to use systems. Continually asking people to go online for information is not good customer relations nor is the continual arrangement of having to make an appointment to go and even hand a letter in to council buildings. E.g. Arrochar House.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We still need to provide face to face service with customers. Not everyone wants to use technology or is confident using it, including staff. Face to face staff training instead of links galore in Objective	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	People need answers to questions, not an automated response, you are dealing with clients who may need reassurance to individual questions, not fqa's.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Some people will not be able to access services digitally and so some face to face contact must continue. Also, there has to be robust back up for when the inevitable failure of the digital service occurs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone has the skills, the equipment or even the inclination to go digital. Council services need to be accessible by everyone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Customers may still need additional support to access services, not all people are comfortable using digital solutions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The Council website and customer dashboards etc are at present ridiculous and totally ineffective. For example, reporting housing repairs is so pointless and longwinded and basically involves adding a step of filling out an online form and several days later receiving a phone call from council staff to actually book the repair.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council and its housing services are in the process of improving online services for tenants. The council successfully completes over 100,000 repairs on average per year. For urgent or emergency repairs we recommend phoning the contact centre directly for a repair booking and assistance. Where the repair is non-urgent there can be varying lead times as staff manage work across our 14,000 homes and deal with external pressures on the service
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated do not always offer good customer service and can lead to frustrations and causing further customer complaints.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, similar comments to part 1A. This strategy is great in theory but not in practice. The council end up wasting more money on systems that don't work and lead to an increased level of staff involvement to fix these issues or work around it and are stuck with the system. Either that or the system gets replaced prematurely because it doesn't work and for the same cost, we could increase staff wages or hire another member of staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Also, what happens to customers who can't or won't use technology. It isn't just older people who struggle, there are plenty of younger people that do too. Whether its lack of access to technology due to income or difficulties using the technology. Do they just fall by the wayside? Who does that help?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Despite the rhetoric about digital, the council needs to do more in this area. I don't believe that the money we have invested in digital has been money well spent - there has to be a cost/benefit analysis to ensure we are delivering actual transformation and not wasting money "playing at it".	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I personally do not think that by using more systems and reducing staff that the council will be more effective. In previous years we have invested in new systems only to find out that they are not compatible with other systems we currently use. sometimes it can take twice as long to do simple tasks as you need to input info twice into 2 different systems (TMS and MyHR are the systems I am aware off)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More staff cuts when most people are already struggling. Digital solutions are only any use when they work.....much better dealing with human beings than computers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Will there be enough staff to allow those who are not digitally literate to be able to get help when needed, as well as someone to take a call if the technology doesn't provide the help or answers required?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is discriminatory against people who do not have technology in the home, and help for these digital experiences will come from where?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	My concern is not accessing people to talk to if need be as everything all more technology based more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, this will only work if the technology is good enough. They buffer too much as the server can't cope! A lot of devices are old & unable to operate properly as well as not having enough.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There is nothing more frustrating than making a phonecall to a council service only to be put on a loop of automated voices and choices. It is not more efficient only hugely irritating and totally counter productive in terms of efficacy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is rubbish , what people need to talk to are real people as older folks have real problems along with disabled and people with learning difficulties and the last thing they need is more automation .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There should still be an opportunity to speak to someone even only during certain times of the day / week	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Prefer a person to help me rather than a computer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Prefer a person to help me	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Whos demand? ; Customer choice will not be increased... you will take away face to face further isolating people in communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Concerned about the impact on the elderly / those unable to access digital technologies for any reason	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Disagree with this - at times when technology is the only interface it can be extremely frustrating and off putting when you cannot speak to a 'real' person.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, details needed to make a worthwhile comment! Not all customers can or want to access digital facilities though. Sometimes digital options can lead to very frustrated customers if left waiting in queues on telephone lines or the system goes down or has technical glitches.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everything is accessible online. Not everyone can do it. I've just spent a day with a blind customer and training our dept up on digital and accessibility. West lothian Council is not ready for this. Too many older people, less advantaged people. ; I want paper things, I want things offline and in person. By the way, I am a product owner for a digital app across Europe and council has a long way to go before this can even be thought about.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I appreciate the savings however as I said previously not everyone can use technology therefore you are discriminating against people who cannot use the technology	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As a customer as well as an employee of West Lothian Council Digital Automation makes people feel that the Council does not care when the only contact you can use is the digital portal. For instance if your bin is not collected for any reason the only way to report it is through the WLC website. Now if this has happened multiple times in the last six months there is nowhere to report repeated and systemic problems too except by talking to your local councillor and I am sure they have more important work to be doing than bin collections.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Will never work, council schemes usually don't	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is all well and good, but technology cannot be relied upon and some service users will find changes to digital provision as very tricky to navigate.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What about elderly people who are not familiar with accessing services this way ? They need face to face or manual contact ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Face to face appointments are essential for people who struggle with technology, e.g. elderly, learning difficulties, or where the online information is very complicated. Very limited access to this help could prevent people from claiming/receiving the services they are entitled to.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Many elderly clients do not have access to digital services or confidence to engage in digital services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all customers are able and willing to work this way.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automation services are never popular and very frustrating when they dont work properly, they must have a function to speak to a live person easily.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Face to face services are very important in particular areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, the savings are not worth the impact on employment/service rates. Cut down on managerial bureaucracy, particularly middle managers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology should not be used to replace humans.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This implies redundancies or non replacement of staff. I personally hate being constantly referred to a website at every turn and then when you do wish to ask a real person it takes lots of waiting in a phone queue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	See my comments above re 'elitifying', discrimination and inequity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The answer is not to constantly cut the number of staff and make things digital. Without adequate staffing, there is no opportunity to develop or provide learning at an acceptable standard. Current staff are in burnout and leaving the profession at an unprecedented rate due to impacts on their health and wellbeing. The job is not sustainable and I have considered leaving the profession myself due to this as it is taking over my home life as well.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automation = Robot programmes. Councils are designed to provide services and require one to one communication. Automating/replacing frontline services will (especially with the older generation and those with cognitive impairments) have a significant impact on these client groups ability to understand what stage an application/enquiry is at.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all people have access to digital platforms or are capable of using them. Do not take away face to face/human contact for services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You cannot match the service you currently provide whilst cutting costs, decisions should be made as to what we can no longer provide to ensure that what we do provide is of an acceptable standard and useful. There is no point in investing in technology without ensuring support networks are available otherwise the service is only available to those who can work it out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital solutions are great when they are effective. We have already seen a move with training towards video recordings and online modules. This is not and has never been a quality learning experience and it seems to me the council does not value quality - they value cheap solutions that tick a box regardless of the impact on improvement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Absolute joke this one, a digital solution that delivers automated responses so broken down into layman terms your going to have bots dealing with customer enquires which everyone knows will cause nothing but problems and not only that issues will not be resolved this one is an absolute accident waiting to happen	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Being a resident in West Lothian I find it difficult finding the services I require and contacting the council as digital/automated services do not always work and it's frustrating when reported issues are not dealt with.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	See answer to 1A. The council must realise that IT, if not properly designed is very poor in dealing with the variety of demand that residents place on a service organisation such as the council. Digital solutions need to be supported by easy to access help of a trained human being(s) if the drive for digitisation is to be successful. It is crucial that services are designed to be accessible from the client's point of view, and for ALL of the community who need to access them - as its more likely that those most in need of council services will also have a significant barrier to accessing digital technology. It is crucial that saving do not cut the capacity for this support to be offered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It's unfair to only make services accessible online etc as there are still many people who can/do not have access to such things.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As the council still seems to produce the bulletin, and never emails people about changes such as a failure to collect bins. I have my doubts the council is capable of implementing anything more complex. But again, there is no detail here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The key factor in pupil development, support and improvement is working with qualified teachers and supportive adults. Pupils learn best when directed and supported by a trained, nurturing individual. This cannot be achieved through technology. In fact many pupils are "tired" of this approach due to online learning and lockdown. They lack motivation to complete these tasks and much prefer the social and human side of learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated services does not always mean improved efficiency. ; Also technology is not always an option for some people. This can negatively impact the services provided to many customers who may not be capable or know where to find support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again not always helpful! Think of the elderly who just want to speak to someone?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated processes, again trying to reduce staff. Keep staff and increase services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology can never replace human compassion, reasoning and understanding on a sympathetic level...these are very integral and highly important as part of council services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	For decades and decades councils were run by front line offices. Things must be worse than ever before if you resort to this. Surely you dont expect support from the public with us paying high tax etc and getting nothing in return.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	At the expense of people who dont understand technology. Eg elderly or those with some learning difficulty,;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think its disgraceful. The most vulnerable of society are being made to use technology they dont understand. Or worse. Rely on others to help them which at times leads to people taking advantage	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Online digital improvement needed for your housing applications. Been on housing list for 3 years and cannot even get an email or phone call back and online all it tells you is application has been processed. Not how many points I have or points requirements to be considered	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council serves and supports a lot of vulnerable people who benefit from the flexibility and the understanding that a human can offer over a computer programme. More jobs for people to improve the quality of life in our community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We must remember that not all of our customers are technology savvy, may not have the money to afford technology or the capacity and patience to use this or automated processes and will either be reliant on staff support services to assist in this or fall through to cracks. We must not let this happen and we will need staff available to ensure it doesn't.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Auomated lines are frustrating in so many ways, using webpages again dont always work and end up with wrong details or having to speak to someone anyway i cant agree with doing that	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I tried to contact the council and the digital way did not work not get replied to in any quick or efficient manner.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No for the elderly and disabled they must have a member of staff to speak to, technology is a frightening thing and can cause distress (and I'm not elderly or disabled) I do not think a full blow digital system will be in any way a good thing. You need to rethink how we can save money elsewhere for example the cycle path that no one uses that cost a massive amount of money. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Pls see note above about throwing away money on digital solutions that are rubbish, add no value and end up being rolled back a short while later. Be sensible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I don't like trying to speak to a computer & always end up having to speak to a person..	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Dont forget people with no access to mobile phones or computers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Face to face customer service will always be better than automated services!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I have phoned and left messages for callbacks, if people cannot do this what chance has automated messages going to improve?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	If you have a complaint about a service received or the conduct of a staff member please use register a complaint with us. These complaints will be investigated and responded to formally. As well as this complaints are monitored by our regulator the Scottish Public Sector Authority
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all residents have access to, want to, or simply can't contact services using the online route. The council should ensure that all residents are represented when designing their services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I can see the merit in using technology but no-one wants to speak to a disembodied voice asking to press this button and that button, would rather speak to a human being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There is nothing more annoying than these gadgets which rarely produce the answer you want.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone, especially older residents, have Internet/computers or know how to use them. They need yo speak to a human being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As per above there needs to be care as not everyone has access to technology or a computer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Your reasons for carrying out this survey states that the amount of pensionable people in the area is growing faster than anywhere else in Scotland. The majority of these people are not tech savvy and this would be detrimental to their ability to do any business with the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not always the best way forward as not everyone has or is capable of accessing services digitally.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	People need a human being to talk to and connect with when engaging with council services and it is soul destroying and incredibly frustrating to go round in circles with pre-programmed bots via chat functions or inadequate automated messages - ultimately this just cause extra work in the form of complaints,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What is the investment/cost required to realise the targeted £500k saving. The design and development of modern digital IT systems is costly, often requiring significant time, investment and risk. Who would be carrying out this work, and over what time period?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The comment is in a form of a series of questions
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Nothing worse than being on hold or using an automated system when the problem can be solved by a person not a bot. more to pay out by way of settlement agreements? More unemployed in West lothian?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Why reduction in staff? For automated systems? If there's a reduction in staff surely means a reduction of accessibility?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What services would be automated? Not everyone is online.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Try actually hiring COMPETENT people from within the community! - Digital transformation happened 20 years ago! Multi-media? You've never been interested in the input from genuine experts in the past - you don't know who to ask or what to ask; instead it's yet another area where cronyism rules and you expect to be able to tick-box your way to rote solutions; that never work!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all people are tech savvy. This goes especially for our older residents who much prefer to talk to and to see real people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital Transformation is a mess so instead of handing out more and more well-paid jobs and promotion to the digital team, Get rid of that team and let services need to be able to make decisions and move forward. We don't need a team of staff "consultants" who earn far more than they deliver	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The digital Transformation team has not achieved one single saving. Any minor improvement to service would have been achieved if services had been resourced properly in the first place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Easier to talk to someone	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Would rather talk to someone	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Hate technology, better to have people to talk to	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please keep customer and person contact	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	digital system is rubbish you get cut of half way through call	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, this is a very weak proposal, lacking clarity on both the size and scale of investment in digital and the actual net savings being achieved annually when digital investment and annual operational costs are considered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Aww good grief, not more "press this button, press that button" and you never get through?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	In my experience, they do not fully and you read about far too many people being let down. Slick administration services can sometimes be useful but their benefits are over-played in many cases so take care where you go with this please.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Take an example, there is a big surge in online mental health apps and the like, partly because of Covid and cost of living challenges but also because the NHS mental health services aren't adequately funded or staffed. Do these really work?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It depends how far behind your systems are. There is always room for improvement but please bear in mind my earlier comments on inclusion and accessibility.; Be honest about your own experiences with the Digital Transformation in the real world. How many times has a supposedly great system simply let you down? What happens when your online services "crash"? What's your back-up? ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	So using computers and getting rid of staff? Not sure what I can suggest here?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I do not agree with more automated services as they only stress people out. There are elderly people who just do not understand the automated systems, people with severe mental health issues who become more anxious because they cant speak to an actual person	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	keep all staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	NO, this won't happen. There is utter inequity on provision of technology within the council already- for example 3 new secondary schools- half empty with state of the art technology and other schools scrambling around with old tech that barely works. This is bump without clear strategy-	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, how is this all going to work with the energy crisis we are facing. Automated services are fine while they work, a nightmare when they don't and how are they going to work if we are facing rolling blackouts over the winter? Please do not underestimate the telephone. I find nothing more frustrating than trying to speak to a human being while faced with press option 44, when you have already been on the telephone for sometimes an hour.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Given the population of older people, automated service is not always the best option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I am not in support of making it more difficult to raise concerns with an individual person. The council must prioritise this service particularly for the elderly or those without internet access.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Concern around job loss	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I don't know what that actually means? But again, people losing their jobs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Your automated services are already appalling. Being a full time worker I have found reaching the council sometimes impossible - especially when I have my own time limitations. I'm assuming this makes the future even more bleak?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	In my experience since covid, it can be really difficult to get the support you need which decreases efficiency and increases other services work loads when services cannot be answered within a timely fashion or clarity comes from 'teams' rather than having a named contact to seek advise and support from.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As a disabled person with limited digital knowledge and mental health issues I struggle to use technology outside of the home, whether shopping or banking or other day to day functions that force the use of digital technology, I prefer the Human touch where at least if I have an issue I can ask questions and get a real answer and not be told that my question has not been recognised, maybe if the council employed and trained people who are there to help and not just direct you to the council website etc etc then maybe things would improve, what happened to good old human interaction? this would be a good place to re-employ the council members who are losing the council money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yet again, the very people that have kept everything running over the past 2 years will be the people losing their. I think this is an absolute disgrace and needs to be reevaluated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You cannot deliver support with no staff, technology is not infallible. There are still a huge amount of people who are unable to use advanced technology without assistance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital Access to services is already poor. Too much emphasis to make person to person access harder and then claim those services are not being used.; Fed up of being told all questions answered on websites. No they are not and there should be some access to a human to deal properly with enquiries.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council doesn't have enough money to buy decent IT hardware or software. We can't rely on the rubbish that is peddled to the public sector. The new CRM and Itrent are good examples of the poor software packages on offer our price range. It has already been shown that automated processes need just as many staff to keep them going as they were designed to replace. And the most important point - the customers can't or won't use the technology. So, the most vulnerable in our communities miss out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This will have a major impact on the older generation who cannot use computers, tables or even mobile phones.; My mother will refuse to do any transactions or email forms online despite my help.; What help is available for people like me with dyslexia (letters and numbers), which I have.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Human to human contact is far more supportive of the community than digital resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	In my service, customers cannot reach daytime service staff as they are instead offered a voicemail facility or email which leaves them frustrated. We are often dealing with customers in the evening who are angry that they have been unable to speak to someone during the day. Technology cannot replace a person when you have an issue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If customers can only access info on-line in the future then assistance as well as technology will be required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Concerns about elderly and other vulnerable people accessing and using digital content. Can already see changes negatively impacting independence of elder relatives	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Customers need to still be able to speak to staff and get help when required. Digital literacy in the community varies and customers will be excluded.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You have not transformed a single thing digitally despite having an extremely well resourced team. Nothing, at all. I don't think you will achieve this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	You have not transformed a single thing digitally despite having an extremely well resourced team. Nothing, at all. I don't think you will achieve this
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Would rather talk to a human being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	We still need to be able to talk to an actual person!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What will be the process for more complex issues and community members with limited internet, digital access.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not necessarily easier for everyone. Sometimes want to talk to a human being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	still want to be able to talk to a council staff member instead of being on hold for so long	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	At some point it will diminish	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I don't understand how this is different/ not incorporated into the 1A programme outlined above.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Older people like to see someone in person or on the other end of a phone. This might suit the young, but hinders older people and those with global learning needs or certain disabilities or language difficulties including English as a second language.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Merely digitisation is not enough. Booked a bulk uplift several weeks ago , didn't turn up, had to call twice to be told they will turn up following day. Waste of my time, waste of council call handler time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The current services with the reduced level of staff are inefficient so how would replacing what's staff you still have left make these services become efficient once again ? As both a resident and worker it is already difficult to get communication with regards to services without further reduction. This is also a concern for the elderly population of West Lothian who will now not be able to access these services due to inaccessibility.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	To associate automated services with accessibility is a great misconception. Many people with barriers, either age, additional needs, or quite frankly with unique circumstances can find automated services frustrating and overwhelming. In such instances, service users may simply avoid using services they previously would have if they've become automated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This risks excluding the most vulnerable who have limited access to the internet or are not able to use it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I have used your online system and at present it is poor and confusing. You cannot assume that everyone has digital access especially the elderly who could feel intimidated by these systems. If everything goes digital what about the health and well-being of people who may only get human contact by arriving at council offices. What happens when systems go down. Shouldn't be relying on everything going digital.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No human contact and automated services mean frustration to the customer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The elderly must be taken into consideration with digital transformation. Many struggle with automated services and prefer to speak to a "real human being".	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Speaking to a person helps solve problems	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I would still prefer face to face rather than an automated service. Not everyone is comfortable with technology	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please continue to provide for non digital access via phone for those unable to access digitally	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	the salaries within the digital transformation team are enormous in comparison to the service provided or the outcomes achieved to date. What has been achieved that the team are rewarded with promotions ? The savings to date were handed out to services and the DT team achieved nothing. There's a saving straight away. Nice in theory - terrible in practice	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Need to make sure that customers who are unable/unwilling to use digital services are not left out	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	See previous comment. Stop cutting staff at the front end. We need them on the ground to help our children and vulnerable people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There are still a significant number of people who cannot or do not want to use such technology who still need to be catered for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You need to still cater for people who can't access computers or don't know how to use technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Nothing ever gets done if you contact the council electronically. In our experience you either need to go in person or wait an eternity on the phone so it will only get worse if you go even more automated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Multi-media customer services might not necessarily increase customer coice or accessibility. It can be too dependent on the perceptions of the providers on what is needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	AS PREVIOUS IS GOOD TO TALK TO A PERSON.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	How are we supposed to keep up with an excellent service with even less staff and under paid .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Do not want to talk to a robot/automated systems do not always work, i still want to be able to talk to a person if contacting the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This approach will adversely affect the most vulnerable individuals and families in the area. The ones least likely to be internet savvy or even have access to wifi. This is likely to be a false saving with other staff required to support vulnerable individuals to engage with digital services instead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As in the first question, people especially older generations may not like not being able to speak to a person so this isnt a good idea for all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Be aware that elderly citizens are not digitally literate and this would make life very difficult for them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	on the other side of the coin you have older people that will not like it .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital solutions do not always offer this benefit and therefore are not appropriate for all services approaches and should be used with caution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	People still need face to face with the Council. Trying to push more & more into digital makes the Council as a service less accessible for all and very impersonal.; In certain services blended working is best.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Also, West Lothian has a growing ageing population - they may not be able to use technology, they will still have to using the telephone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again heavy investment in technology would be required - current systems are insufficient so a complete overhaul of what we have now would be required. How many times do the web forms currently available for customers and online payments go down at the moment? What do customers do when new on line services go down? They call in looking for the service to be provided or to make a payment but will there be sufficient staff after a saving of £502K to provide customers with a service. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Remember not everyone is IT savvy. Keep phone contact	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	replacing staff with technology is a poor narrow minded solution, putting people out of jobs is not a true saving as they would then have to claim benefits	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again provision has to be provided for those people who are not able or have no access to technology to progress their contact with West Lothian Council or part of the community that is looked after will be alienated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not every question is there and answers can be confusing. Make sure there is easy access for everyone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all customers can use digital	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This again seems like cutting staff in order to digitise information. Unfortunately in my experience this puts more pressure on staff left to help those digitally excluded.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	how would you deliver this - especially to people that are unable to access or complete	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone is comfortable using technology and prefer to talk to someone face to face to resolve issues. Plus, a lot of tech help is useless, eg: phone lines, you don't get anything resolved, the systems are often down. People feel confident talking to a person for certain issues, rather than a machine. Feel that person to person issues would get resolved easier.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Very concerned about this point in relation to "greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum". Online learning is not the answer for our young people and nothing replaces face to face lessons and input from a qualified teacher in person. It has negative impacts on children and staff mental health, even for short periods of time. It increases the workload for the staff and causes technical issues, anxiety and concerns for parents to fund the technology to access these lessons. Not everyone can afford the technology, it is not always possible to have stable connections to the internet and ultimately ends up having to have an adult around to support the child rather than it being an independent learning task! ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As in the first point. Some folk cant access automated things so need to be able to contact the council and speak to a person.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As per my response to 1A, If things can be automated for staff to use then that's great but if its to replace staff then I'm not convinced - typically technology isn't a human and can misinterpret questions thus requiring the council to then spend on outsourcing a helpdesk which would ultimately cost them more than the staff they have let go of. Or only a few staff are retained who then take on the jobs of 2 or 3 staff that have left causing burnout (sick leave) or resignations. I still prefer to go to a human on the checkout in supermarkets because there's always an issue with the self-service checkouts, that only 1 staff member are manning, and it ends up taking longer and is frustrating!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Remember that not all have access to internet or computers or mobile phones so something needs to be put in place for them. People will not be able to afford internet soon as unable to eat or heat homes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated serviced in my experience provide a poorer customer experience. I find it difficult to believe the council's claim that they will provide greater accessibility.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What about older generation that are either not technological minded or just do not want to. Also disabled folk? There access	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Worry that older generation not able to access digital format or understand it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Many residents rely on human interaction without having to access computers or internet and this must be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Waste of money - IT cannot support the infrastructure we have already never mind giving them more to worry about.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The older generation find it difficult to access and use computers and rely on support from human interaction	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Dont lose face to face and telephone calls as there are people unable to use digital - also payment methods were easies over the phone when they were live not automated - staff have been vetted and can be trusted to do this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What happens when the day comes when there is power issues or signal issues, must keep some original adverts on busses signs etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As stated previously, across services it is increasingly difficult to get to speak to a person with more and more services being reliant on people going online, filling in forms or working their way through computer checklists. This can be extremely frustrating for customers and can disadvantage those without access to technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Or you could keep staff and cut them at the tops salaries	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone uses the internet	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	A lot of people struggle with online forms and application. Older generation will be excluded.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Don't think multi media will help the elderly or it illiterate with access to council services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital "solutions" have NEVER created greater efficiencies and repeatedly indicate the raising of further "tech" complexities with the advent of increasing the computerised diversity of data acquisition. How and what estimated savings of £502,000 are being discussed here?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Lot of rubbish	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The comment is not detailed enough to allow a response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	A lot of customers have no Internet access	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Probably fiction. Savings through tech implementation often take a lot more investment in tech than you think. (But save money eventually.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Do you really need to upgrade your phones if you still get a signal? Is it really necessary to buy all the new toys. That's going to be a big upfront payment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Don't cut staff and bring in technology. Bring in technology and expand the work the employees do. Are your processes clean? Don't think about bringing in technology to resolve bad processes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	My earlier comment concerning marginalising non techies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not good it's important to be able to speak to a person	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Does this mean there will be nobody at the end of a phone/ email to answer questions? we all know how infuriating that can be.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Some people would rather speak to someone as try and work out a system. Older generations don't always trust technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Same comments as 1A. WLC is becoming more and more distanced from its customers. It is already difficult to contact council staff and get to speak to someone who is able to deal with your query. This is even worse if you are someone with disabilities who finds the use of technology and being stuck on the phone for ages etc too difficult and don't have anyone to support you. People who most need help are at risk of becoming more and more vulnerable with the current proposals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again doesnt work effectively, creates a disportportinate level of issues with a large demographic	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What technology how will this reduce staff costs how are you going to transition an ageing population to digital solutions	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	what digital transformation? To date, that has amounted to; creating a specific team to write reports, fiddle about with a few things that are easy and don't save any money. Introduce other types of e forms that we had anyway, increased the amount of systems we use....the list goes on.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is unacceptable and children should be taught by specialist members of staff rather than through digital forms where less support can be provided.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Always a concern are residents who are unable to access technologies either due to a lack of access to technology or a lack of knowledge of how to use technology. For some digital does not always equal accessible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated services are a pain in the arse. Not always helpful, when you need to speak to someone you should be able to speak to someone. Can be a barrier for people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There is still a part if our main customers who don't use computers and never will	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As above re digital use	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Accessibility must be addressed or the poverty gap will further impact the ability for some to access services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again this is presumptuous and discriminatory. Those with learning disabilities, no digital literacy and no access to online faculties therefore face access issues. Providing a service which only meets the needs of the able majority is not providing a public service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Very concerned that this takes away the ability to talk with someone. Replacing the ability to talk on the phone with someone with digital options affects our most vulnerable in society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Face to face is best	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	you need to keep some hard copy written or discussion for those that cant do things digitally, its not fair to assume everyone can do things digitally.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology needs to be more friendly. Govt gateway and pupil portal are examples of bad user experience	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again there are still a lot of people who have no access to computers or know how to use them. There should still be an option to speak to someone in person !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I disagree with this. The worst thing ever invented was automated processes. Please do not reduce staff for this. The elderly will not be able to access multi-media customer services without training and you are at risk of isolating the most vulnerable. I say this from experience.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Many people requiring support have no access to digital technology or are unable to utilise it effectively	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I feel service provided by AI is useless most of the time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is NOT a good way forward.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	; ; The most effective services are where people are able to speak with someone who can assist them - rather than being asked to press a button, hold, leave a message, send an email. Please remember that the people who answer your telephones are actually more efficient than those who wade through emails.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Certain generations are not comfortable with using technology and prefer dealing with people.; What support is there for them.; Cutting staff numbers ??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Yes I agree we have to move forward with the times however this never proves to be better and we have vast community numbers that need to speak to people as digital is a cop out when things go wrong which they usually do.. another excuse that services hide behind	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone can afford to contact the council through digital media therefore traditional methods must still be used.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again - this statement means cutting back staff to buy technology. Automated services are impersonal at best and useless at worst. Machines do not provide answers, ultimately putting the staff you need to have on under extreme pressure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	People will be losing their jobs in replacement of technologies.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As I said before not everyone is technical and there is nothing worse than having to speak to a robot or an automated voice on a telephone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	IT is stretched, I believe this would put more stress on working individuals who support many areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is important not to shut older people out of access to services because they are less computer savvy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, digital solutions rarely lead to reduced staff in my experience.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	In my experience, money is often better spent on people rather than technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I have concerns about digital by default unless accessibility is taken into account from the start. More details are needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What about people unable to access digital devices	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There are still a number of council users who don't have digital access or knowledge, especially older people and this will exclude a lot of those who may need to access council services the most.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Insufficient detail on impact to make any assessment. Many residents are not conversant with IT but should continue to be serviced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology always sounds great but only as good as the implementation and access for the end user of which the council is unfortunately well of the mark in achieving.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No job cuts! We want to talk to people!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Investment in digital solutions will not be sufficient on its own. Ongoing commitment to maintain and support these services will be required on an ongoing basis. It is not clear that digital solutions deliver a low cost solution. Often the cost is simply transferred to profits for private sector organisations based outwith West Lothian thereby creating a net flow of revenue away from the local economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Disaster waiting to happen - customers have no previous knowledge of technology especially elderly demographic	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Same comment as above. Although automated services are very frustrating to customers with non standard problems. It is sometimes necessary to speak to a human being	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again cutting staff costs and cutting staff is not a solution. Stop putting people out of a job ! Be more present. Stop being unseeable and behind computer screens. Have staff available to go and see or call rather than stupid automated services that help no one !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Personal support needed for people who will find this difficult.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Using multi media customer services is actually going to make it harder for customers as a lot more people are having to give up their broadband/ Internet and can't always afford to use their data due to price rising on everything.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Nothing achieved so far so how are you going to do this with the massive team you already have? Is the answer going to be get more staff? If this is the case I strongly disagree with this. The team there was tasked with delivering and hasn't. Please don't throw more £ after this team.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sometimes you need a human not a machine	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Depends what areas are being digitilised	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Still need to consider people who are not able or willing to access services digitally. Need to ensure access to services for people who are unable to use digital services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Internet/ data is not always in everyone's gift and people don't all have skills to navigate new technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Does it include doing away with necessary services or do you think everyone is technically minded; Nit everyone can do stuff online	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone can use digital technology, e.g A lot of elderly people in particular. This will make services less accessible to them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	not all use or can use digital services need some face to face.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Some customers can't access services digitally and they mustn't be disadvantaged as a result. Recent changes to public access computers at IT suites haven't had regard for customers when Microsoft packages were removed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Totally disagree with the argument that this will improve customer choice and accessibility, many older residents do not have access to the internet and as most of the local council offices have relocated to Livingston making it increasingly more difficult for older residents. Most people would rather speak to a human on the end of a phone	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please keep in mind that not everyone can access digital and automated services. It is also likely that the very people who need assistance the most will be those that fall into this category.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is often difficult for elderly residents to use technology although the efficacy of the services maybe enhanced, the danger of lack of understanding technology would lead elderly resident to feel left out and undervalued	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This I hope would not result in services being difficult for older people and people who do not have access to the internet to get the service they require.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I do not agree with this. automated systems are very frustrating and often don't answer all questions or problems. ; Many elderly people are confused by then annas many disabled too. Peeler who are hats of hearing will struggle too. Too often now technology is seen as the answer but often creates discrimination	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Pls provide a service for the digital averse/not interested/ too scared of being scammed that would likely include me - but definitely anyone over 65 - we will eventually fade away into the dim and distant past but until then we still have a vote ...just saying	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The money that has been spent on digital transformation in the last 5 years is ridiculous and a lot of people are still not using it or can use it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	it's not as simple as the delivery of new IT systems, existing staff need to be trained properly on any system that is introduced, or you will reduce staff costs, and put extra pressure on individuals to adopt new technologies and ways of working, whilst expecting them to do more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not great that people would be out of work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You need to remember that not everyone has online access so some level of human contact must be maintained	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sack staff, replace with technology that there is still a good part of the population who cannot access easily due to abilities, either age or actual disabilities that would stop them and/or cost of living can't afford to have access, then hire new staff paying more to fix when the technology breaks down or you realise that there is people lot is not accessible to. As much as yes technology is part of every day just reducing you staff to replace them with it is not the way to go when there will always be people that cannot access easily.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all customers are of a digital era and therefore are forgotten about when it comes to a digital transformation, but this ties in with my previous comment about cutting staff for computers, it's not a clever way to work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Too much digital world now people still need face to face contact and over the phone talking as technology can actually take longer to sort things out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone uses technology & its usually a nightmare trying to go through your website trying to find the actual thing you need. HATE automated service !!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Disagree, what about those who not access internet, or choose not to participate in social media?? Customer service and support is vital. Visibility in the real world is necessary such as leaflets / new letters to update and inform people on essential services re bin collection, road repairs and positive events or info on groups/ country parks etc in local area .. people need to access services and be informed not just on internet.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Alot of elderly people don't have smart phones etc and prefer to speak face to face .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital equals disaster for the old . They're not of the digital culture	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Just be aware that not everyone has or is able to use or access iPads etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Many elderly & disabled residents are unable to use digital technology.; Make improvements internally that WLC staff and employees will use but do not make more things online as this would be discriminatory to the elderly & disabled.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all residents are technologically savvy and able to operate these systems. This could alienate and affect a great number of elderly or learning disable/additional supports needs people. A lot already struggle with the online systems and no support is given. If you call to take care of something you are often directed to a web page or email address which is not an effective system	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Would that mean reducing staff levels, in certain jobs automated process is not very personal, thinking of the older generation and the not so technical minded.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	You have to remember the older generation and those who are not IT literate	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not everyone is technology minded! What about the disabled and elderly?? ; All about saving money? Saving money for what????? ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not all residents have access to digital devices and still need access to face to face services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As long as it does not have an adverse effect on OAPs and cause difficulty in them or anyone else reaching the service they require.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Support unless staff reduction results in poorer services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	My experience of digital services is poor and I don't imagine the staff costs cut will really save overall as the technology will be costly to maintain.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Disagree with this. Less human interaction with the public is the wrong way to go forward.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The services are a disgrace; Your employees are doing there best .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	So this cut again is at the detriment of your constituents as we will have longer waiting times while trying to contact local agencies as all your so called digital solutions never meet the standards they are supposed to you only have to take the example of private companies such as Sky, BT, Royal Mail and utility companies to name but a few who's reduction in staff to boost profits only effect the customer who no longer receives good customer service due to automated/ digital services which are supposed to be more cost effective but deliver a much poorer service. So again how can you justify previous tax increases against a reduction in quality services from a human to digital/ automated content ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I do not agree with making more use of technology at the expense of human interaction, which in real terms means job cuts for council employees.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Another saving that sounds like staff will be made redundant... Automated systems have limited use and are not suitable for all in our society particularly the elderly and vulnerable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No some people cant do online	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	People loose their jobs, robot is taking over.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Don't feel that this is very good currently so sorry that savings could deliver an even less useful service for us customer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Many of our customers, especially those most vulnerable, aren't able to rely on digital technologies to access services, therefore I think this is a false economy. To many people, this will seem like WLC are effectively isolating them and cutting them off from service provision, it will not be increasing customer choice, it will be reducing it for those that need us most.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council services that I use are all face to face. I don't really want to use digital services because I prefer people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I am not confident using computers and IT. Not everyone wants everything digital. Please keep some services face to face for equal access.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Although I have a computer and Internet access I don't want to deal with payments and booking services online I want to speak to staff at community centres	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is nice to have some human interaction and some empathy and help most of the time even a multimedia customer service would not be able to help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Can't get face to face appointment and no e-mail communication as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No prefer to speak to somebody	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology doesn't work want to speak to a human to answer questions not possible on an automated system	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I would rather have a person to speak to	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Can't determine what this actually means as no detail given	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail in the proposal
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The IT we currently have in school DOES NOT WORK! One set of netbooks for 12 teachers/classes. Two thirds of which won't connect to the internet. WiFi that's not fit for purpose and pupils that have no access to IT at home - or the skills to use it.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	'a reduction in staff costs' - is the council proposing redundancies?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I am not sure about this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Ditto	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Have any service areas been identified where this will take place or will it be council wide?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Without knowledge of what this means or entails due to the vague information given it is impossible to give thoughts on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What technology and how will it be used?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Comment is in the form of a question
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	..	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Same comment as above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	See above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Don't fully understand the proposal	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not sayvet	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I don't feel I have enough knowledge on this area to offer an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	,	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Neutral	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	See 1 a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No idea what this means as you have not actually said what you will do. Significant amount of jargon. Plain English required. Again can't support as you have not specifically stated what you will do.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, what does this actually mean? How many staff will lose their jobs?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	See 1a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Similar comments to 1a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As before.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is also essential to provide staff with the correct equipment i.e., computers, tablets and connectivity to allow them to be able to use digital systems, forms etc. with groups and individuals in their communities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	difficult to provide specific feedback without knowing the actual detail around the proposed plans.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Seems reasonable but again lacking any detail for consideration	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail to comment
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	So what happens when the power cut goes off? Whats the business continuity plan?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has detailed business continuity plans for all aspects of service delivery including backup options for systems.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Most other councils in the UK and even locally (Glasgow) have far better online and mobile provision. Getting updates from the council is ad-hoc and its clear that a communications team needs to be setup.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council uses a variety of platforms and channels to help residents of West Lothian to stay up to date with news in the local area and also, provide them with access to council services and new information. We track engagement levels with each channel and continually look for ways to improve our reach and content.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	So this is where some redundancies or movement of personnel may occur however it is the world we live in	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There needs to be a serious review of IT projects. Their purpose, the worth of some of the IT lead and the outcome against cost. ; The pre-work involved to get anything done is obscene. The various stages of arcane project management theory that litters the projects is incredible. It is so inefficient and not fit for purpose. The stages of closure, pre work, if the project changes etc are incredible. ; It smothers any innovation and takes too long.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council's IT department must surely be in the firing line for efficiency savings whilst at the same time supposed to be leading a digital transformation. The IT department currently cannot provide the required support to services who are currently trying to make these changes. It's doubtful that this consultation will change this and if anything make matters worse.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Send the west lothian Bulletin digitally instead of print	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council uses a variety of platforms and channels to help residents of West Lothian to stay up to date with news in the local area and also, provide them with access to council services and new information. We track engagement levels with each channel and continually look for ways to improve our reach and content.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council website could use some improvement. However, more elderly constituents do not access information in this way; recent changes to bin collections, for example, are not always easy to find.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council website is intended to keep West Lothian residents informed about council services and the local area and also, it provides them with access to the council services that they need (for those who wish to transact with the council online). The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It would help to make the website more accessible. At the moment it is extremely hard to navigate. Information, for instance, regarding education is sometimes impossible to find.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council website is intended to keep West Lothian residents informed about council services and the local area and also, it provides them with access to the council services that they need (for those who wish to transact with the council online). The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Greater use of website and social media to provide information to the public.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council website is intended to keep West Lothian residents informed about council services and the local area and also, it provides them with access to the council services that they need (for those who wish to transact with the council online). The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think improved IT services would be better	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The resident advised they had no comment to make
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The resident advised they had no comment to make
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Will a reduction or delay on service provision, resulting from these proposed measures, result in delays which may in turn require even more costly solutions? Without more details I cannot comment meaningfully on this proposal.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	More specific detail would be useful to understand how digital solutions will lead to savings, and in what specific ways these will impact services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again no substance to this so impossible to understand what you are referring to	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Easy to use is a must and ensure that all users can access no matter of age or ability.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Customers need to be able to speak to someone	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	So far, we have struggled to realise savings from the implementation of digital solutions- what is this measure going to do to change that?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think that ensuring that current digital services are running efficiently is more important than introducing new digital services. Integration of teams will work, if it does not overwhelm employees.	4. The council is already doing this.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As a side note, what on earth have the Digital Transformation Team been doing and what have they achieved? We are told nothing so why don't we start to truly demonstrate to staff the difference we are already making and start to build a culture that honestly celebrates achievements (I don't mean celebrating success which was more demotivating than I've ever seen a celebratory event).	4. The council is already doing this.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, reliable WIFI and devices for teacher and young people.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Staff laptops are not up to standard. Lots of recurring faults in brand new equipment or being unable to download the necessary app in order to use equipment ie visualiser	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	a review of all technology in the organisation should be carried out, and slimmed down	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Social media is free use that to communicate	4. The council is already doing this.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I hope that all of the 32 councils are cooperating in these processes..	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is working with others through the Digital Office for Local Government
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Visual online contact with council staff should always be an option, eg Zoom/Teams.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has implemented the national Near me platform to allow video conferencing for customers
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This is good but I would like to say people on uc have to do their own administration for this we all need access to Internet and need device to us also we need to learn how to write things in as a lot of people have never done this or most of the time don't have access to Internet or device you say go to libraries sorry but not everyone can do that me myself can't go out as I get high anxiety and thinking about having to go to a public place is very scary also some people don't have money for Internet or a phone laptop I am single parent of 5 year old I don't have a phone to do my emailing on but if not I would not be able to sign into my account or get anything and if I don't do what they want on time you get money stopped this is very concerning as a parent my 20 year old is in receipt of UC but had no access to phone Internet to go in to his UC so has when with out any money for 3 months nothing and I myself get next to nothing and I have had to keep him so he would not starve or freeze I feel you should provide some kind of scheme where low income people could get phones or laptops or such like given to them by council as my daughter got a laptop and a dinghy for 2 years internet free and laptop so she could do all her UC and school info as myself don't always have Internet to access info I need from school or myself	4. The council is already doing this.	Although the council cannot provide individuals with laptops or computers, the council has free access computers across West Lothian for everyone to use. These can be accessed in partnership centres and other buildings. The Anti-Poverty Service is available to help provide advice on completion of benefit forms and online services. Provision of laptops for some children during Covid-19 was funded by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Will this new way of working provide for people and families who require help but are suffering from digital poverty? Is there provision in the change to take those people into account?	4. The council is already doing this.	Through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I also believe we should subsidise equipment to staff members who are struggling with cost of living	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	No paper copies of tax etc statements ; Everything online	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council acknowledges that our customers expect access to council information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To enable this, the council will continue to look at ways to improve the website both as a tool to provide information on services, but also as a tool for customers to engage with the council, e.g. making payments online. Through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Cut leaders and employ more hands on workers to get us out this crisis mess	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It's been noticed all council vehicles are being fitted with computerised displays for reporting missed bins and beats being completed. This is a complete waste of money as this work can easily be carried out during debrief at end of shift. Or if those duties were passed on to drivers made up to a charge hand role for crews they could carry these duties out	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	there should be more people 'on the phones' to deal with matters. It can sometimes take hours to get through to certain departments if you're trying to report things, then there is that wait to see if anything happens in regards to your initial phone call.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Customers are encouraged to phone through the contact centre and leave a voicemail in queue at peak times; or alternately email us, or use the appropriate forms on our website
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	shut off telephone lines and get rid of phone numbers. ; close CIS offices	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	moving with technology can only be a good thing if the correct systems are put in place. A great example I have seen is one which the contract or submits to almost a workflow style system to which the works are approved by the requesting officer before being remeasured and passed by the surveyor and finally passed by the secondary signature on the payment this would speed up many payments when it comes to TMC ad-hoc requested works.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As mentioned previously, Digital Transformation should include the closure of buildings and investing in staff to work remotely on full-time basis. Closing/Selling Buildings not really required would therefore make substantial savings. Investments should then be put forward for more Digital Processes. Allowing staff to attend buildings on a hot desk service only when required.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As mentioned previously, Digital Transformation should include the closure of buildings and investing in staff to work remotely on full-time basis. Closing/Selling Buildings not really required would therefore make substantial savings. Investments should then be put forward for more Digital Processes. Allowing staff to attend buildings on a hot desk service only when required.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Councils should consider working together and sharing resources, especially digital. I have worked in two different councils and have had to complete mandatory learning for both councils. What is frustrating is that the content is the same but the outlay and design is different. By sharing content, man power can be reduced.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The reality is that the council will invariably choose badly when it comes to technology and reduce the staff regardless of whether or not that technology is in place. As well as this 'advanced' technology needs skilled staff to work with it and get the maximum out of it. The reality is that technical skills within the council are lacking. Recruitment should include a technical test that at the very minimum should include a validation that the individual is able to use MS office products at least. I spend significant portions of my time providing assistance to staff at all levels who should have better skills coming in the door. With regards to choosing technology. Procurement is a tricky process and staff without experience often handle work that is outside their skillset. Leading to a competition where the winner is not chosen by the best or most knowledgeable people. As well as this there should be an inclusion of preset questions on key topics like cyber security and data protection requirements. iTrent a is a key example of technology chosen by the wrong people. the interface is horrendous and the system is slow, clunky and unintuitive. As well as this a quick google search shows that the top results where users comment on the product are all negative. When technology like this gets chosen and staff counts are reduced we are led to a 'google customer service' scenario where people hide behind inboxes and its not possible to get coaching or guidance session with a staff member. Or worse as with iTrent, no training was provided whatsoever and the guides produced could have been made by school children based on the quality. You can fill a workshop with the best tools in the world, but if the people using them dont know what to do then the product will always be bad.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Provide a digital device (tablet or similar) and adequate wifi to all council buildings along with adequate wifi, some community centres do not have public access devices or wifi. Doing so would allow staff in these buildings to encourage customers to do things digitally, using customer portal and so avoiding unnecessary calls to CSC or appointments in CIS offices	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council I.T infrastructure needs to be able to cope with modernisation. There should be enough qualified I.T staff to lead the way and not so much bureaucracy to hinder change	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I also suggest you involve older and less educated service users in user acceptance testing to help identify user problems that will not be obvious to the more tech literate people implementing the changes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not sure how costs can be combatted here, but, for instance I have an old laptop that cannot take modern IT solutions, such as "clickshare" I don't have the required port on my PC for the required technology. There have also been incidences where I don't have the required adaptor either, if all this was standard throughout, this would reduce the need to buy separate equipment for IT problems. I also don't have the required adaptations for some other digital display equipment. As a minimum, I would suggest uniformed IT equipment across all of WLC regardless of property (education, operational, etc... and all WLC staff (such as projects, MIs, RPs, Projects, TNRP, Education, H&S, Trainers, etc...)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please also consider cost effective cloud measures.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please hire a consultancy who knows what they are doing to implement this, given the information security risk	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Have you thought about providing a 'live chat' facility where it would help customers speak to someone without phoning?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council should seek to cut specific projects and programmes that don't deliver any meaningful outcomes or contribute directly to delivery of the 8 priorities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Improve the council website with online chat made available rather than phone calls if info not available on the website.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council website is intended to keep West Lothian residents informed about council services and the local area and also, it provides them with access to the council services that they need (for those who wish to transact with the council online). The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	While I am in favour of digital systems and prefer to use them as an initial search for information it is very frustrating when you have a very complex or unique question and cannot get through to an actual person. Often the question only requires a few minutes but automated services which give stock answers are not always helpful. I would rather have an email address that I could send the query and know that it will be read and responded to or I will be called back but tracking down relevant email addresses is not always easy.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There should be a chat feature on the website	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	See above. Changing systems without reviewing and redesigning business processes and the people performing them will result in a costly mess.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	ensure public wifi works for the number of people using it	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Get a data science team in to do AI work and you'll save more	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please make sure you test all new interfaces so they are intuitive for all users and not just able-bodied, clear sighted users. Please also don't cater to just the latest devices. All interfaces needs to work for people who don't have the highest spec kit. Also; don't assume everyone is as technically literate as you. Use the government digital standards as a minimum.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Invest in ipads etc to allow for on site reports and updates without need to go back to the office or re-type work onto another format.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Another vague statement. How are we to provide input if we don't know what this means on the ground? We are already doing great work in the community in Social Policy to bring technological solutions to problems. Why is this not recognised? Why do staff not know what's going on in throughout their council? Should we not let them know of new programmes of work etc??	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automated processes are very frustrating for everyone, but more so especially for the elderly they cannot cope with this. I understand you will be saving in staff costs and need to look at these options but not all pensioners have someone to call for them and automated services can be very stressful. If an option right at the start of the call was a number for pensioners (preferably 1), could be anyone born before???? you are directed straight to an "actual human" this would make life easier for pensioners as I think people forget they are having to constantly adapt. Anyone with an elderly parent I'm sure will understand this. You could trial this withhith	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	some areas of the council have access to some platforms and not enough licences to enable other areas to use them - such as e learning authoring which gives customers a way of doing some personal learning before a 1-1 interaction and coaching is needed	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The councils "pay for it" system could be much better and more efficient. Officers in front line roles don't have access to behind the scenes for this and therefore can't check whether applications have been paid etc. This leads to inefficiencies.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I believe there is more that can be achieved in this area. There are still too many occasions when forms have to be filled in for what seems like no apparent reason. Also, it seems that we have not maximised the use of workflows to reduce the need for form filling.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Make online portals easier to use for people	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Automation provides lots of opportunities for improvement and efficiencies, but funding must be available to implement and then support the projects on an ongoing basis. It takes time to properly redesign a service and make sure that customer needs are fully considered in this process, and initially this takes extra resource before we could see any reduction in staffing. The advantage to the current ways of working is that people may be able to adapt to unforeseen changes more quickly than an automated system. We need more people who have automation skills.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There is little justification for printing given the modern digital tools staff have at their disposal. Elected members could take the lead by not wanting paper copies of committee reports which is a ridiculous waste of printing and staff resources.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	do not spread yourself too thinly across multiple platforms - choose one and utilise that (e.g. social media presence should be limited, choose a technology partner and strive for efficiency with them).	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	In my experience of change management and business improvement, significant new IT solutions usually take a period of increased costs during the introduction, training and shakedown periods, with poorly thought through risk management plans usually resulting in a (hopefully temporary) bad experience for both staff and customers alike. Limited local beta testing is essential before full go-live is implemented.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The web site requesting services is not adequate and could do with being updated. Automatic responses are already in place it is the manpower thats required to respond to these	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What is the point of sending newsletters to all. If some want a print copy surely it is cheap to have them request one & for it to be mailed out than everyone get one. The newsletter can be emailed.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think it is essential that the council continues to develop services to match the digital age. Better customer experience should be the top priority for any digital transformation we undertake. Internally, the council could reduce costs substantially by taking an aggressive approach to reducing printing.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Council website for paying rent/council tax should be made easier to use to increase accessibility. Maybe a phone app?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As suggested in answer to question 1 an online ticket type system would be favourable as it allows users to submit, check and update queries.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Investment in new technologies, such as an app would assist with customer service and customers ability to access services/information for themselves	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It is very difficult to get un touch with the housing department, the online portal is not user friendly.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continues to offer different kinds of access for customers. This can be speaking to someone in person through an office, by telephone through the contact centre or digitally through our website or other online portals.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	why does the council provide staff with mobile phones? personally I'd be happy to use my own phone and access calls and emails that way. I understand that many private sector businesses allow staff to access emails on work phones so can we not overcome security issues ? I'd also suggest that you could remove desk phones. I cannot remember the last time a desk phone was used. Surely mobile phones, teams etc suffice now?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is actively reviewing the number and usage of systems and applications that are in place as part of our plans to rationalise systems and improve our management of data and information.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Please be careful on capital and ongoing spend in this area. Are we considering more outsourcing of services to private parties who have greater delivery scale advntages and who have already invested in modern ICT infrastructure?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digital funding for schools allowing technology for all pupils as done in other authorities would help with raising attainment and closing the gap	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	As more and more people embrace the online world, you may wish to consider a 'live chat' function on the website. Although a phone service would probably need to stay in place to some extent, its opening times may not need to be so generous.; Would an App be a way of encouraging customers to connect with WLC digitally?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This measure is welcome as long as there is appropriate investment in technology to support service delivery with reduced staffing. More automation and bots will be fundamental to achieve this but the council also needs to ensure that all technology works seamlessly together to improve efficiency. Eg is there a solution to embed video conferencing platforms and phone lines into the same system.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The Digital Transformation Team have been in place for a period of time however there has not been any information on the measures that they have now put in place for creating efficiencies. We need technical staff with the correct knowledge to drive this and sufficient resource in this area in both qualified staff and technology.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	why do we all have desk phones? Hardly anyone uses them. Surely It should be looking at an audit with a view to reducing their numbers. Most staff are using their own phones anyway and the directory is a shambles. TEAMS is a game changer so IT should be looking at this as a potential saving	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Council website needs to be much better, clearer, easier to understand and easier to navigate.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	there should be a team of people (maybe once a week drop in) who can help those use technology.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Need more public computers and support for people who cant use them	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Digitising a bad process will only make that bad process fail quicker so a detailed look at what is done and how it is done will be required. Services will need to be honest with themselves and not try to hide behind it's always been done like that or don't see why we need to change, and we don't need help from anyone outside out service to deliver change.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What has been done to shift customers away from the Contact centre? Live Chat, updates on service requests, live social media updates ? We haven't moved forward one bit in the past five years with this.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Currently our digital platforms and access to digital platforms are such that they are not always accessible. Students are relying on their own phones meaning batteries are very low and a number are using personal data to access programmes like TEAMS.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is working to ensure access to devices where relevant
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Also greater insistence of training, cpd, and meetings to be held via teams rather than increasing mileage costs and time costs for travel to meetings. Consider also the carbon savings. Seems absurd to have meetings in person nowadays.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	the use of online meetings has grown significantly over the last two years
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There is currently a big push on digital technology in the classrooms, but my school currently has a lack of equipment that is equipped to do the jobs we need. Also training for staff on how to use new technological programmes etc - there is very little available. If this is cut further staff will be unable to deliver the curriculum the way the government sees fit.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is working to ensure access to devices where relevant
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	At the moment the website is frustrating. I often have to clear cache / cookies to get into ipay for school things and that's from safari, a browser most people must use? ;	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	1C Digital Transformation: Fully support this but if you want to match provision with the way customers access services then you need to shift the front door to apps as most customers access services from other providers via smart phones. Most business now have apps and most people with smartphones access them to buy, change or cancel services every day of the week. These apps are integrated with those companies back office or legacy systems to provide seamless service to the customer. In 2021 the number of smartphone users in the United Kingdom rose to 53.5 million, making it 78.9 per cent of the population and its expected to rise to over 65 million by 2026. Activities on smartphones in 2020; Activities Share of respondents; Email service 85%; Searching for goods and services 81%; Internet banking 76%; Messaging apps 71%; Social media networks 70%; Reading online magazines and news 70%; Listening and downloading music 62%; Searching for health advice 60%; Making video or voice calls 49%; Playing games 41%; Selling services or goods on the internet 21%; ; The council has a much more complex set of services than most businesses so you may need to consider an app for Tenants along side an app for the Environment Services and one for Education. Whatever you do its time to join the future.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The council also needs to consider how customers want to interact with multiple services. Currently a customer with multiple needs has to access services through multiple pathways; repeat their story multiple times. Digitalising individual service processes does not always improve the customer experience. How can we introduce data-sharing consent at the first point of contact with the council, then have automated referral processes that streamlines multiple processes? For example as a low income customer if I want to apply for council tax reduction, housing benefit, free school meals, school clothing grants - why can I not tell the council my situation once and then automate the processes? Highland Council have introduced Apply Once. Could the council use data much more effectively to target resources and services much more effectively (and as an earlier intervention) to prevent reactive expenditure?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Technology for self processing or self help should be increased and a dedicated app with personal login to self manage accounts payments, rent, council tax etc and should be linked to social services for benefits or DWP users	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If you are adopting new technologies, you should apply considerably resource to testing them with your users. By which I mean identifying your hard-to-reach groups and contacting them, or via relevant intermediaries and not leaving it to the views of people who willingly engage with you or who you can easily reach - that does not provide a balanced view.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Birmingham City Council have their tree map on-line so that the public can view trees and report any problems observed giving specific details and upcoming works can be advertised. It also shows the value (biodiversity, CO2 capture, health index) of the canopy cover helping to educate the public. On-line TPO system as 1A above	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Provide a mobile app for services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It would be great to see more interaction from the council on social media posts including answering/replying to misinformation. Also if the council could log enquiries or add comments received on post advertising surveys into the consultation that would be great. Still keep a phone number as this is sometimes helpful. Maybe consider live chat/PMs/DMs	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Self-service technologies seem valuable, but perhaps retrain willing workers to build an in-house software development team who can cost effectively continually improve customer offerings. That might allow some other displaced workers to backfill roles of the interested future developers. Many large corporates would be happy to support such tech re-training free of charge.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	'Reduction in star costs' ie sack workers!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What cash benefits been undertaken that point to £502,000 savings; BTW what are the £2,000 to be spent on: spurious accuracy	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Where will 502k go?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Where does rthe budget come for to fund technologies when staffing needs to be cut.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	It's not fair that people in the community or work place have to pay for to save money it's all to pot	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Tje council needs to stop taking on agency staff as it's costing the council money	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Like most modern organisations , management structures should remain lean and flat to avoid becoming top heavy and expensive to maintain	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Cuts should not involved schools even more so for children with additional support needs. This is a major disaster. GIRFEC needs must! Reduce cuts on heavy management from the top. Totally against school cuts!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Job losses ?!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Dakiuj	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I know cuts have to be passed down but this is unbelievable. The UK and Scottish Govt should work together and forget indie2!!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Reduction in staff costs = is this a reduction in jobs?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Sjld	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	dakujwm	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Another upgrade, how many skips will be ordered this time? Get a bloody grip!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I need help	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Moisture readings above 78!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There be dragons.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	People with knowledge and know how are required not the same old bods kidding on they can do the job.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	100% for citizen empowerment. As long as the council acts in a timely manner or are proactive to dealing with issues and whilst on site checking around the impacted areas. I.e. apply a little n+1 thinking. If someone reports one pot hole and there is another in the vicinity fix it too. Similarly if one team sees drains are blocked or streets are filthy with debris call it in an have the other appropriate teams fix it.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	I think having to download the Authenticator app is a step too far for a lot of people and makes it too complicated. I know there is another way of verifying the account but again it feels like more faff than online banking.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not always a less of a human makes things better, the same with money. Digital currency can enslave society. You can freeze someone's account and with no cash in the market, you force people to think in your way, or they can get their money frozen. Are we call it freedom? So, which digital transformation are we talking about?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Charm we choice ha ha ! Your service department are rude! How about training them on empathy and how to be realistic	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure in service please raise a formal complaint and this will be investigated by senior management and reviewed by the Head of Service

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	If you are relying on using the current telephone service whereby customers are supposed to be able to contact the council you need to do a whole lot better! It's totally unacceptable that someone calls is kept on hold for 20 mins to then be disconnected without speaking to anyone. Do you ever give any thought as to how frustrating and in some cases the despair the customer feels when they require help? It is totally unacceptable.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Customers are encouraged to phone through the contact centre and leave a voicemail in queue at peak times; or alternately email us, or use the appropriate forms on our website
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Think you should look at doing away with in person voting and going digital with all.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What technologies? what services? This consultation is (redacted).	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not enough detail to judge the impact this might have.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Explain please! Vague nonsense	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, this isn't consultation its telling us what you are going to do. What will impact on customers, WL residents, be? Needs to be far more detailed. Above statement is just more management waffle... Make staff redundant and replace with a 'press option 1' Never get to speak to a human!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	What comments do you expect people to make here? There is no question to answer.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Again, this statement gives absolutely no detail whatsoever. If you are asking the general public to give an opinion on elements of change that could impact the services that local tax payers fund, you need to sort yourselves out and actually provide the relevant information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	unsure on this one	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Word salad. Means nothing to me and I'm a degree educated 46 year old.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Not enough detail to make constructive comments. Experience has not been good to date, as above.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	There is no obvious public service potentially being lost here. There is improvement proposed. If this question relates to saving money or keeping unnecessary jobs (in the presence of improved technology), why don't you just make that clear. If you're trying to involve the public in hard decisions to make savings that result in losing jobs, make that clear, don't hide the negative impact on jobs! If every potentially saving is portrayed as good news, and provides a clear net benefit to the public, why are you consulting? It is illogical. This consultation so far appears to be an exercise in rubber stamping decisions that have already been made rather than presenting options and pros and cons to the public and have them inform decisions.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The comment does not relate to the question being asked

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	This feels purposely vague to allow free reign to make any chances decided at any time.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The comment was not relevant to the question
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	That 2,000 is very specific	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The comment does not relate to the question being asked
Modernising our council	1C Digital Transformation	Staff reduction should be addressed with clarity to the public and not through mass redundancy of loyal, committed council workers.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree that greater use of technology should be used - does this mean reducing teachers? If you are to replace teachers with technology, how will the technology be funded to ensure that all children have access to devices and connectivity?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposal is not to replace teachers with technology.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Anything that cuts down current waste / duplication must be welcomed. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	My experience of this is positive - the challenge is selecting third party providers!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools will hopefully be more able to make effective decisions about what they need, so this could be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds good though very vague (as are most points in this survey)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any changes to help cut savings is more than welcomed as i'm sure a streamlined funding model will deliver the best support etc required in all schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There must be significant savings in this vast budget. Maybe the target for this measure should be higher.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education should be taking a share of the cuts. Overly protected by politicians at expense of many other vital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More efficient allocation of resources is to be encouraged.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The education budget is the largest and there should be room for savings what does the education customer service team do. Could this not be absorbed by other teams	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Proposed budget reductions are spread across centrally based teams as well as schools, but centrally based budgets are very small in comparison with school budgets.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as the 'third party' understand how schools work and how resources are used. ; Technology should not be use to replace quality teaching staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is intended that technology is used to complement quality teaching.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	OK - as long as focus continues to be on not only learning but also on supporting young people with their mental health and wellbeing - especially following their disruption during Covid.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Focus on reducing/eliminating top-heavy management structures and greedy, bureaucratic tender processes that leave council departments forced to use contractors and suppliers which are often seriously overpriced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children need teachers not computers to learn. invest money in training, early intervention, behaviour management, adequate support and long term savings will be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is essential, please do it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This will be a positive step if it tackles the varied needs of children as it is proven the prescribed teaching we have falls short for many of our young learners. Flexible learning in improved environment, developing further the strategy to learn and have fun.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Modernisation and smarter working will only bring positives. Value for money and ensuring if we are paying for things that it actually makes a difference. Schools working better together and sharing best practice and skills will benefit everyone.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In what way is technology to be implemented to deliver the curriculum? All discussions at national level are that technology should never be used to replace teachers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	OK but without real work yet to be done, it is difficult to grasp how the £5 million savings are to materialise	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is very important in schools and shouldn't be cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This will be interesting to see implemented. Support staff are stretched as it is. Admin staff are being given more and more tasks with little or no training.; Mainstream schools are having to cope with more and more pupils with additional support needs without support which can be very disruptive to the whole class. There should be more specialist provision not less.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I cannot think of any cost reducing ideas here. However, would suggest where there are more "demanding" children, there is not a waste of staff resource catering to one particular child at a particular school, but if properly assessed they should be sent to a school that caters to the child's needs for that ward? (ie. one teaching member of staff to one child due to issues that child presents... where is a school or specialised group within a school could help better?) May also lead to better teaching for that child, however, would probably need considered on a case-by-case basis. (Again, may need to consider a shuttle bus and if this would be cost effective). Would remote learning time be a consideration here also? (Could still be carried out under teacher supervision - remote learning similar to what was carried out during covid? Perhaps a "reasonable" deposit scheme could be implemented per year for electronic resource that could be refunded if equipment is returned in good condition?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need pupil support staff. Children are struggling in schools and them and teachers need the support from PSWs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology can not replace teaching staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need money as children are the future. Teacher numbers shouldn't be reduced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is adequate staffing of schools as it is especially with regards to pupil support workers. Inclusion often means high tariff pupils are left unsupported within schools. There should be no cuts within the schools budget.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long third party providers doesn't mean lower quality.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as standards and curriculum are maintained or improved.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The children are our future I do not feel that any savings should be made from school budgets and if anything more should be placed on giving kids the best education so they can leave school and continue further education so they can work and contribute to society	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cut school busses back to the statutory limit instead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I can see that using technology to deliver the curriculum might be a good way forward, so long as it is recognised that some pupils are more disadvantaged than others and will still be able to access lessons/teaching/support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	could schools with lower roll numbers be amalgamated to save the building running costs, Reduce building operation costs where possible that has the least impact on education.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is there any evidence that suggests that pupils benefit from the use of technology? Might it be that they only benefit from e-learning when it is supported by qualified staff?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree that school resources need to be managed in line with the financial challenges the council faces. The council should benchmark against other councils to find the best practices being delivered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Needs more funding for different types of activities outwith the classroom such as outdoor learning, wellbeing trips for rewarding pupils who are doing as asked and attainment methods	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Needs more funding for different types of activities outwith the classroom such as outdoor learning, wellbeing trips for rewarding pupils who are doing as asked and attainment methods	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Budget restrictions impact hugely on successfully implementing essential strategies to raise attainment and support individuals. This is becoming increasingly difficult, but as mentioned, all staff are willing to give their all to support essential cutbacks.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are the places providing the education for our young people, who are the future, and every investment should be invested there. Maybe investment in more 'lower paid' staff, ie pupil support staff, admin as opposed to promoted senior management staff would be a best use of limited resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Headteachers and their teaching staff are the ones best situated to serve the needs of pupils. Get rid of the unhelpful bureaucracy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools have to take their share of reductions - it will be hard but other services have taken a bigger hit in the past and schools are the biggest part of the council's budget. It is only right that savings have to be made in this area too.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as there is no impact to the current setup	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as level of education is improved	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think its very important that schools are well resourced and staffed and this isn't taken away.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This could be a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds ambitious. Hopefully does not overburden already stretched resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The staffing at 50 week nurseries can be absolutely ridiculous during the holiday periods. There can be up to 9 members of staff for a handful of children. Surely savings could be made if there was one local hub school used instead of opening up individual nurseries. I believe that opening nurseries from 8 a.m till 4 p.m term time only is the way forward. These children will move on to their allocated primary schools and these schools certainly do not provide childcare until 6.15 or during the holiday periods.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	1140 hours is mandatory for the council to provide. Term time offer available in those settings which have physical capacity.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as the children don't suffer as a consequence.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree that reducing the cost of resources such as print and reference material in place of a digital resource is a good thing, but children do still need the support and guidance from experienced and dedicated teaching staff. I have had 3 children go through the education system in West Lothian at both ends of learning capacity, my eldest needed learning support and help choosing the correct career path, another was top of his class all the way and needed support with best university choices and help with application. The staff in school that have helped my children have been invaluable, their experience was needed and was invaluable. On the other side of it there have been times when supply teachers are used and that is when issues arise, continuity in learning is essential, children react positively to someone they know and trust and who understands how they learn individually, not as heard mentality but gets that they are all individual people with individual ways of understanding and growing. Education is not a business its a foundation for the future, it cannot be treated as a profit and loss organisation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a parent of children who had to make the move to online learning very quickly during the pandemic there is merit in using technology more to deliver the curriculum if this means that learners can continue to have access to quality learning and support. However if this move would decrease face to face contact time to any great extent then this needs carefully balanced to ensure learners still receive adequate support. The use of teams has had varying success with access to materials, posting of homework and completion of work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as education remains at the heart of the changes. Greater use of digital technologies are good however, human interaction, stimulation and thought provoking teaching need to be front and foremost.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree that change and improvement is needed in schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agreed. The best people to decide on resource allocation in schools are Head Teachers, who know their community and their childrens' needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is critical that resources in our schools are properly funded. If not it is our children that suffer. In todays society our young people can find life extremely difficult. Especially because of the pandemic and the pressures of social media. it is vital that support for pupils is readily available and that it is accessible for our teenagers. Schools also need to embrace technology in their curriculums which is a much more efficient way of delivering education and really benefits students.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is scope for efficiency through greater use of technology in the curriculum, however this will have to be balanced with pupil needs. Schools currently often run on a very tight staff with little scope for absence or change without significant impact on delivery to pupils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	strongly feel money and restructure is required in the education system, there are too many kids going through school without the correct support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If you're considering integrating technology into schools, pupils need to provided with laptops/lpad each.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Digital devices to be issued.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The ever increasing demands on schools through the varied Additional Support Needs is already placing great strain on Pupil Support Departments. Any changes to staffing etc were these to involve cuts would certainly be detrimental to any service delivery. At times of osterity it appears that Pupil Support is first in line to be looked at and in a society where Mental Health and Financial hardship is a constant headline any impact on the support offered to young people should be maximised not minimised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Curricula can be delivered in multiple ways (online distance learning being one example). However, as previously stated, our communities are facing the worst cost of living crisis in our time. How will we ensure balanced opportunities if they are unable to provide the technology necessary for their children's education?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Digital devices to be issued.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education has been a protected budget for some time now with many areas of waste in each school. I've seen first hand simple things that cost money being spent simply because schools have the budget to do so. Education is important but the traditional way in which we deliver it, the limited curriculum and the single minded approach have seen our children in this country drop in standards. We could provide them with the skills they will need now and the future by ensuring that the practical skills are more developed. Utilising technology again is not new.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Digital devices to be issued.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	PSW are essential to support the most vulnerable children and without them learning and teaching would not be as effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Money must be available to enrich learning, technology will not be used to replace teachers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support workers are essential and frequently support the most vulnerable of children. Without them teaching would not be as effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think there is a balance between using technology to deliver curriculum. This needs to be developed mindfully, and evaluated carefully before simply agreeing to long-term use. Some pupils require additional support. Learning needs to be inclusive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, sure school roles and budgets can be more efficient. But I'm against any strong cuts that will impact education	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	bit removed from schools as not got children at school, but any improvements would be great for schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I believe its not resources but looking after staff and developing the staff to provide for a forever changing environment for children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In principle, this would seem to be necessary in times of funding but education can only be enhanced - in some areas - by the use of technology; not delivered. Qualified, conscientious and dedicated teaching staff are irreplaceable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	For example, using a common digital learning platform across all schools - negotiate for a package across all schools and supporting services as a way of saving cost. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree with a review of 3rd party providers. This work could be brought in house easily. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools should get what is needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is not really clear from the explanation above what all of this would mean in practice. I would hope that through improved use of technologies we could reduce the admin burden for school staff. Greater use of technology for teaching pupils could open up new opportunities with schools no longer being restricted to set class sizes for the delivery of particular lessons if pupils are learning in a different way. Attracting nursery pupils in from the private sector would be a saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Happy to see efficiencies being adopted within the education sector	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School provisions are important and an area that should be focused on.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any help in schools is much needed and much appreciated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is key to our future. Don't mess with the kids education!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I support this only if it results in maintaining/improving the excellent education my children get, instead reducing waste in the system. Greater use of technology worked in Covid but seemed to put pressure on staff so that needs to be addressed. I am concerned about the reduction in support staff, I feel my children are exposed to behaviour and less teaching in class as a result of children with additional needs, a support system that works for all children must not be diluted to save money. Prioritise education quality please.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is already too much focus, resource in this area with no added value.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So long as children's education is not affected in any negative way	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	sounds like a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	utilise technology across the schools network	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	remove unnecessary managerial positions in schools;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Maximising the use to technology to deliver the curriculum, as well as professionals from outwith education (such as sports, the arts) will provide a richer and more engaging learning experience for learners and will likely reach a wider range of learners	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would be concerned if individual schools are given the freedom to make choices which then in my opinion gives rise to different technology being used between schools. I believe in a unified approach to the allocation of resource and use of technology within an organisation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I understand the need for use of technology to deliver areas of the curriculum however staff are needed to ensure this is done correctly. Pupil support staff are an essential part of the school community to ensure that children are supported in their learning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I'm happy with my son's school provision, although it is a shame that there are not many activities for the children and parents to socialise and after school clubs are inexistent (it would be good to have them even paying for a fee, for example, a sports club since this is a unique opportunity for children at SEN schools to socialise). Some activities would reduce the isolation of the children and their parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools' budgets are currently tight, with many offering no scope for further efficiency. Investing in our youngest, oldest and most vulnerable citizens is a test of the community we are. Savings in this area must be handled with care and fully costed - with both intended and unintended consequences fully considered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The opportunities of web based learning across multiple school campuses for a variety of subjects must be grasped, with cooperation and collaboration across learning establishments, such as Falkirk and West Lothian College, expanded to its maximum potential.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Its quite clear from the skew of savings proposals that the baseline budgets for schools, young peoples services and environmental services are generous and should bear the bulk of efforts for savings and bearing down on expenditure such as supply teaching and sickness absence management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Teacher workload cannot be impacted and added to with administrative tasks, this is not teacher responsibility.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It does not state what sort of ways these services will be allocated or maintained. As long as Childrens education is prioritized rather than funding this would be good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The needs of children should always be prioritised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I've wroked as a site manager in a school and have seen the waste of funds schools get away with.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All school resources should be looked at and see where resources could be better used. ASN allocations in Primary and Secondary Schools need to be looked at so they are distributed out on more of a need's basis rather than on a roll basis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Taking away additional support or resources will not help pupils that are struggling or that have additional needs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Using technology to deliver the curriculum must not reduce face-to-face time between teachers and pupils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children need interaction with teachers and other people rather than just screens to learn effectively. Savings shuld be by sharing facilities/buldings/sports fields/peripatetic teachers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All schools need adequate staffing levels. As long as this is met I would be happy for this change to happen.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Depending on who these 3rd parties are. If to help support and assist then great. Technology could be used alot more in schools too for learning from afar.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agreed. I understand Education is a top priority but it is time that they took their fair share of the efficiencies that the council is required to deliver.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum - as long as there are still teachers supporting pupils this is a potential positive change, it could lead to a more flexible approach to curriculum and greater options for pupils. However they still need to be taught by a teacher, otherwise we would be as well using youtube to teach out pupils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as pupils don't suffer & teachers/staff are paid fairly then I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is critical to engage with external agencies to provide additional support, despite this being a costly exercise. Impact has shown that this is generally a successful intervention. With additional key personnel appointed to schools to support in class/individuals, once again, this intervention is a key driver to success of health and wellbeing of all.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As grandparents to 2 young grand-children it is my belief that they deserve the best education to enable them to achieve their full potential as adults. ; They are entitled to the best education possible and if the above means they will receive that then that can only be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Provide IT equipment for 1 per pupil. Currently don't have enough for 1 between 2 making tasks difficult to complete esp if IT focused	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All consultations must be learner centred and fully involve staffing at all levels within school establishments. With a primary focus of inclusion, learners needs must be prioritised to support governmental goals of raising attainment and closing attainment gap. School staffing at all levels play a vital role in learner safeguarding reducing pressure on other services within authority.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It's unclear whether this means reducing school resources/support or just allocating resource differently which somehow saves money - if it's the latter, seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There seems to be more and more pupils requiring additional support every year, but if the parent perhaps helped/supported the school(s) or sought external help then the school would not require as much resource.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Provided student's will be supported in other ways within the school, I see this as a positive step. Most children (not all) have the digital skills to enable them to develop positively however, I believe children still need a 'face to face' person they can go to for problems arising within the school environment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would like more information on the third party part.; The curriculum is very out dated so more technology based is a step forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third Party Providers should be kept to the minimum. People need job security,so local councils should train and employee people	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is already a shortage of additional support provision in West Lothian. Support for neuro-divergent pupils and those requiring mental health support must be a priority when planning these savings. All teachers need to be up skilled if inclusion is to work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The Council needs to make savings. My concern as a Teacher revolves around getting adequate time to train to use new technology effectively.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In the context of savings required and reflecting that Schools are such a large element of the council's budget, this saving is supported.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	this sounds like a good proposal for education and pupil support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Why wait. Just get on with it now	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We have to move with the times and implement the required changes to increase the level of service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Great idea, reduce time off school and increase psychological help for supporting pupils and parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Better internet access and ict needed for this!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Quality in education delivery is very vital than it is to other areas of the administration. It is the next generation and the knowledge potential. So it is important that this cost reduction/saving does not compromise on the quality.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am sure there are people in the community who would volunteer in schools to cover any staffing issues.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	3rd party's will this not increase costs ?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More than happy with this idea and looks like it could be a big cost saving exercise compared to others!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Anything that cuts down current waste / duplication must be welcomed. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	That's very good I'm.halpy with that	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This would be amazing the additional support and extra resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds good though very vague (as are most points in this survey)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reasonable proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reduce anything that you can	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Yes,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No objection	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree although more detail required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Great savings doing fantastic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	good move	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Great!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	"It is proposed that the model for determining devolved school resources is revised further to identify opportunities for more efficient service delivery"..... aye ok..... so budget cuts directly to schools- say what you mean please! Greater use of technology to support and deliver the curriculum - LOL out loud! aye if your west calder, winchburgh or sinclair- my daughter's school cannot even get a new bulb for a smart board projector- come on- who do you think you are kidding. To even suggest "will enable the council to continue service provision." is an insult to the intelligence of west lothian's parents and pupils. Utter lies - it is not going to be possible to continue to do much with a direct 5million saving coming from school budgets- live in the real world please	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree that school resources need to be targeted for efficiency. And schools could do a lot to improve their green credentials by stopping printing and making better use of all the digital technology they have had made available to them,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Strip this back to the minimum levels rather than go above and beyond.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need to make sure that using private contractors is cheaper - councils and governments don't always get the financial deals	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Seems reasonable although I would have thought that this would have been already happening.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Families are under increasing pressure to provide pupils with devices for AAL. If the focus moves to digital delivery the council has to provide the resources in order for this to be an efficient way of working.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Remember that teachers are there to teach not administer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Using technology to deliver the curriculum more effectively, and with reduced travel could work well. Learning has been gathered through the use of Teams to deliver teaching through COVID, and this should be built upon. Ideas such as one teacher delivering to two classes of children via video link, supported by support staff in two classrooms could work well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	A very large budget- this is a fair reduction level	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Just achieve the saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agreed - schools should be treated no different to other council services. They need to take a fair share of the budget reductions that are required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree with this proposal if it starts in last year of school	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Very good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again technology has its place.; Basic skills of reading writing and being able to spell without using Google would be good.; I think more resources/funding should be made available for schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Using digital technology in school is good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I guess the only comment is that hopefully these savings won't impact on the quality of teaching	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reduce support staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree with greater use of technology to deliver curriculum however I do not agree that the parents take the charge for this. Many children are having to use their own devices in school for their class work or research.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Support is available for families without access to suitable technology,
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This proposal is good as the use of technology in education will better help children with learning whilst preparing them for living in a society where technology is at the forefront of everything we do. Changes to resource allocation should also help deliver a more targeted education.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any negative impact on the education of school pupils will not improve their employment opportunities or their further education. I do not agree with cutting core or support services. Delivery of some core services by better digital delivery will be a good use of investment. ; If children are and will be the future they deserve the very best.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree that staffing for pupil support is more than is required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for our comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The education system has been needing modernised for a long time, this could be a positive if again done properly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There's not enough staff or resources in schools as it is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is an area I have experience of having led digital transformation at **** (redacted) in Falkirk and now Digital lead at **** (redacted); We are very fortunate in schools to have free access to digital technologies through the Glow intranet. I have seen digital technologies support and enhance education and allow St Mungo's to move into remote learning with much less disruption than I saw elsewhere. At Linlithgow Academy we have invested in staff development and additional devices. Staff are enthusiastic to embrace technology and the increase in productivity that would result. However, we are constrained by a network that cannot support a digital approach. Wireless Access Points installed in the school months ago have yet to be switched on. Machines connected to the local area network are failing due to their age and are connected to the network to points in the wall that are regularly prone to failure.; We would like to adopt a BYOD policy but cannot do this due to poor WiFi. Pupils cannot access vital learning tools eg immersive reader and therefore require teacher/learning assistant time. Teachers cannot teach effectively using digital technology and therefore cannot improve efficiency and effectiveness and spend time on other duties.; There needs to be an investment in network infrastructure, additional devices for pupils without their own device and staff training. Although this is not an immediate saving it will lead to savings if rolled out effectively and as a matter of urgency.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Council is supporting access by all pupils to digital resources through appropriate technology.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	DSM seems to be used for a lot of "nice to have" works such as decoration and flooring so there may be an opportunity to reduce the current spend. However, given the cuts in other budgets (both capital and revenue) a lot of schools are going to look terrible very quickly and not particularly inspiring or attractive places to learn.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Devolving decision making is welcome as it is the schools themselves that will know their requirements. Move away from 3rd party providers and bring services in house.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The use of IT in school might engage kids more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Yes save but what's the cost of putting this in place	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So long as the level of service and support is unchanged this is fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. It is the intention to maintain high levels of service and support.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Makes sense, as much as possible should be provided in house	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are too many managers/high level practitioners in Education (and possibly in other sectors of the Council?). These are a very expensive resource and can be ineffective due to the motivation to justify their position/compete with/confusion with other High Level Teams becoming a primary focus rather than that of truly supporting their real rationale/purpose.; For instance - do we need as many position holders such as Pedagogy officers, Equity and Excellence Officers, Health and Wellbeing Officers and Inclusion and Wellbeing Officers - do these overlap/compete? Shouldn't we invest in "in the classroom" roles which are dedicated to supporting children more effectively in schools?; How many of these positions are PEFunded - is there an inequity here - there should be more "on the ground" staff to support the closure of gaps and learning needs rather than "fly over" staff who focus on data and policies quite far removed from reality? Covid has created a real problem in terms of learning gaps and challenges around learning behaviour, emotional and social issues which are affecting all children drastically in schools today more than ever before. Is there an "Emperor's New Clothes" culture developing? Are we truly focusing on Getting It Right For Every Child or have the different lenses and the deep dives and the chiming obscured our vision and attention?; Invest in support staff instead - they are a very necessary element of effective learning and teaching.; Use the community more - much more!;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupils and parents evolved and embraced the changes to learning during the lockdown. I think that this was a huge learning curve for many teachers and support staff in schools over a short period of time. ; The learning from this should not be wasted as digital and technology will play a huge part in our current and future young people's future lives and careers, we therefore need to ensure we are equipping them with the digital skills, training and education to succeed in the current and future technological society they will be part off.; We also need to ensure that we provide our staff with the correct digital skills and training to support our young people to become strong, confident learners with digital embedded in their education and learning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree, need to look at resources - shouldnt be input driven (e.g. teacher numbers) but focused on the priority of attainment within the parameters of reduced resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Although I agree with most of this I feel admin and support staff are a vital part of the education system and as such should not be reduced. Changes to education services must not have a negative impact on our young peoples learning or wellbeing,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Yes - as long as this is done through efficiencies not service reduction	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This sounds really interesting. I would like to be updating on these proposals if possible. I was chair of the School Board at Dean's High School a long time ago now but I like to know how the changes will take place. It is a shame that we still have denominational schools we should try harder to have schools being integrated and save more money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The provision of denomination schools is covered by specific legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds like a plan that any modern business would implement when there is a budget deficit. WLC should be no different	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This should be done but not at the detrimental effect on the pupils	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as no online home schooling is involved. Parents have jobs to go to.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Home schooling is not part of this proposal.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The focus should be on outcomes and attainment so I support looking at savings in this area, including reducing teacher numbers. The scope for savings in the pupil equity fund should be explored.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree with this proposal from senior level onwards not for primary aged children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree as long as it's senior level and not primary	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree schools need to contribute to budget cuts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as the staff have the appropriate qualifications and administrative abilities to provide the service and not on just ad hoc basis because you are already in a post.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would stop funding events such as Advent Fayre, cut management roles, get school deutes to take classes (or cut their numbers), raise car parking prices	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Budget reduction proposals include reducing management and devolved school budgets which fund promoted posts.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	With the level of savings expected, and the level of council funding that is allocated to schools, I do not see how this can be avoided. Though it clearly is a risk to education outcomes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Use technology to give young people access to excellence and aspiration. Too much mediocrity in the classroom destroys ambition and enterprise in this country.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as the kids benefit from what is going to happen and not job cutting costs that don't work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	That's a great way to help children and families especially in the current situation with cost of living they need all the support they can get	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Don't know enough of the detail to comment, though the principle of developing budget to the schools sound on the surface desirable as long as the result helped closes the attainment gap.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It's about time the ring fence around the education budget was lifted so that savings were introduced in line with other services have had to take.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as the childrens education isn't going to be affected	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The intention is to continue to provide high quality education.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is amazing schools need good resources to support children with all different learning needs and abilities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	1.Online session/vedios for support kids on homework and other learnings so it's easy accessible and not time bound for kids and facilitators.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any increase to additional needs provision us welcome	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would be happy to see this saving being made through beneficial changes/adaptations to resources for the children and their learning. As long as overall education for all pupils wasn't compromised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support a viable directly to students must not be disturbed and quality of education must not be compromised	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as the education of the children is not adversely affected then yes go for it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as there is sufficient funds for schools to access additional support for specific pupils. This will enhanced their outcomes with minimal disruption to other pupils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think this is fantastic idea. Our education system is not fit for purpose as it is far too focussed on academia and does not recognise that many of our young people will never be interested in pursuing academia but would still wonderful contributions to economic life through vocational employment. Young people who currently get access to this tend to be ones who have already displayed behaviour that is too challenging or disruptive for mainstream secondary school so there is stigma attached to this kind of learning opportunity. How about looking upon this as a positive learning choice, focus on trades, customer service, administration & information management, care industries. I feel we send a message that if you are not academic and likely to go to university you are ot really worth the effort. We seem to put our resources in the top tier of young people (academically) and the bottom tier (behaviour challenges and learning ability) but what happens to the young people in the middle who are neither academic nor challenging. In order to be a "teacher" you must be recognised as this by the General Teaching Council however West Lothian Council employ a vast amount of staff who would make just as meaningful a contribution to these young people as a recognised teacher. Young people should be accessing more vocational options, smaller group learning opportunities all of which can be delivered by competent, qualified and specialised existing employees who happen not to be teachers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	could be a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	by making schools more responsible for the costs and budgets, greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum and changes to administrative and pupil support this would be beneficial. Pupil support could be streamlined as could administrative roles by consolidating admin tasks it could reduce number of hours required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Digitalising schools and making sure that inequality doesn't arise from that is an excellent goal. Do not sacrifice key in-school services such as mental health professionals or family link workers because that adversely affects the children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Could be a good idea depending on how its done	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Agree leaving schools to decide what is needed most	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There have already been significant cuts in this area and as it is one of the Council priorities, I feel that this should be reflected in the budget allocation. Pupil support for children with additional support needs is already stretched.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think the fact you think you can save 5million on this means it's highly unlikely that this won't have a detrimental impact on education. There is no way you can save that much money through efficiencies without it cutting staff or funding in real terms. There is a distinct lack of detail here that i think means a risk to service provision	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, which will be considered during the decision making process.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already hugely underfunded. Why make that worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools have suffered since 2008 and the austerity programme, coupled with the impact on schooling due to the pandemic, so reducing resource allocation is not investing in our futures. Absolutely look at where there is waste in the system, and reduce administrative burden, but substituting technology for teaching is a backwards step. To use an example my older son had his first 2 years of university on line with the majority delivered via pre recorded lectures. He would state he learnt a lot more from The few F2F tutorials he had, as this was much more interactive, allowed discussion and Q&A. The same principal applies at school level.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a parent with children in school , taking away any staff is ridiculous . There are so many ASN children in school requiring support which a single teacher cannot provide. My child has 5 ASN children in his class , he has faced huge disruption for 2 years. Schools need more staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All pupils must received the correct level of support for their needs. Robbing services from one area to apply to another is not acceptable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The treatment of pupil support workers is also shocking - stop the temporary contracts and offer them permanent jobs. Invest in pupil support! If more powers are devolved to head teachers then perhaps the heads of education should take a reduction in pay - how do we justify salaries of £100k a year?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Pupil support workers benefit from the same good employment practices and policies as other employees of the Council.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think that schools need more pupil support provision and think that there should not be cuts made in this area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I'd be interested to know how you plan to alter pupil support and cutting numbers does not help pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not a chance, schools are already vastly underfunded with extremely stretched resources as is. This council is failing students every day with the amount of cuts that have already been made, anymore would be signalling even further that money is more important than the education of the children in this authority. There are barely enough pupil support workers in school as it is to support the ever increasing needs of students with additional support needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Hard to justify savings here as this directly impacts educational provision for future generations. Would be disappointing to see provision lessened and would be more appropriate to cut services in other areas to balance	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Concerned about any reduction in pupil support staff given the level of additional support needs in our schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already under-resourced as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party providers are inefficient slow and change there subcontractors so often much of the time is spent going over the same details with different people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Subcontracting arrangements are covered by legislation and out with the influence of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have concerns that will be a real step backwards and I am not sure the proposal will be aligned with GIRFEC. This is a generic statement but the finer details should be provided to the public for a more informed response.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think it's very important that our children are educated correctly and to a high level. They are the future of our nation. We can not "skimp" on education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I strongly disagree with this proposal, schools and resources have been cut FAR TOO MUCH over the last few years and the young people of West Lothian are being negatively affected far too much. Digital Learning is a JOKE! Young People were affected far too much during the lockdown period, and having 2 of my own, seen the detrimental effect this had on their education and subsequently their exams - THIS NEEDS REVIEWED!!! STOP REDUCING THE OPPORTUNITIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE - THEY ARE OUR FUTURE!!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Removing vital services and reducing in school support through a cut in support staff and partner agencies will make it extremely challenging for teaching staff to deliver an equitable curriculum, meaning the needs of all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Following the interruption of education across 2020-22, it is imperative that the well-being and Education of our learners is protected and that schools are resources well enough to ensure this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support staff are essential to providing a good learning experience for young people so I would be against cuts here. 'resources to deliver additional support in schools' is opaque and again I would be against cuts that enrich the learning experience for young people, especially those who don't have access to extra curricular opportunities outside school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is one area where we should never be cutting corners. Our children are the future and they deserve no more cuts. Use of technology to deliver curriculum sounds totally unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The school years are the foundation for our next generation and funding cuts should be kept to a minimum in these areas to provide the best level of teaching and support for all levels of capability.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not think education services should be reformed in anyway by digital, it is socially fundamental that children continue to experience social interaction with their learning. Whilst it is important to use digital as a tool for learning it should not replace humans in the form of teaching and learning	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	There will continue to be an appropriate mix of face to face and digital learning to support young people but also to prepare them adequately for the digital world
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As an ex teacher, schools already have devolved management structure. Pupils are way down list of priorities its all about ticking boxes and staff feeling undervalued. Again above statement is just more elaborate waffle	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already running with limited resources they need more not less funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This would align with the contact time across several other authorities.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Would strongly advocate against cutting pupil support or in class assistance any further. This is already stretched beyond compare in WL's schools and is absolutely vital; In the current societal climate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools struggle to support pupils as it is without cutting teaching/support staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Concerns include - An increased demand for support for children and young people post covid and this planned reduction outlined above. Significant concerns about reducing support staff who we need to safely organise and manage breaks, lunches and meeting learner needs. The ongoing impact of budgets decreasing but staff with permanent hours and contracts not changing - we are already in some cases struggling to manage this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This should not be touched, do not try and make savings on our future generations.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School budgets are already stretched too far. Reducing staffing of teachers and additional support staff will result in poorer outcomes. There's already a problem with supporting pupils with additional difficulties and a complete lack of behavioural support, as it's been eroded over the last 10+ years. Schools are struggling already to provide good outcomes for the least able. Any further cuts will only make things worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It's not administration or pupil support staffing arrangements that the council should be revising but janitorial services. Does the council know that they pay janitors to do nothing aside from opening and closing schools? Where I work the janitor showers in work hours, watches non work related items on line, disappears for hours at a time, sits with other janitors chatting for hours at a time, takes a free lunch and leaves early. Nothing is repaired except with a roll of duct tape. All other jobs are out sourced; admin staff are more than able to make these referrals. The council should consider having a central pool of janitorial staff that can be called on by cluster schools rather than having one from each school sitting around.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Oh my god, could you waste any more money and resources? A THIRD party? You have the people who can help you already employed...Contractors just waste money not save it. Have you not worked with OTHER councils re vest practice?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cuts to schools, not good. Remind me, what do we pay taxes for?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School education is very important, the need of additional support is very high at present. I feel that education and members of staff should not even be added into the consultation. I feel we are failing our children of the future with this idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reductions are likely to hit poorer families more and reduce the quality of schooling. This seems like a poor focus for a major cost saving approach.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	From what I've seen of the APSW who are centrally employed and put into schools to support ASN children, they don't even know the basics let alone advanced aspects of the job! They do much less than the PSWs at school and even end up not supporting the ASN children as they have no experience and do not know how to deal with them. This means the APSW ends up in classes with no ASN children whilst the school PSWs have to support the ASN children!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Talking about BSMS, ours is almost AWOL. Only visits in the days before the return is due to finance. Which is once a term! Offers no Support to our school at all. Never answers the phone and rarely replies to emails!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Class sizes need to be maintained at a manageable level to ensure all children receive an adequate education, oversized classes have been an issue for many years. In addition at my son's school they had no English teacher for over a year and then they wonder why kids have poor exam results..on top of a pandemic?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	A lot of savings to be made which can only mean less resources available to support the pupils learning. Is this likely to have a greater impact in schools in more deprived areas that require greater resources and support?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not agree with school resources being cut further. I feel that schools are already struggling. My son has additional support needs and attends a mainstream school. He has already been identified as needing extra support in classes and due to staffing the school have informed me that they do not have the resources to provide the support he needs. He does not meet the criteria to be in a specialist school but yet cannot get the support he needs to continue in mainstream. I know that any cuts to school funding will most definitely affect my son and other children in similar situations. The schools already do not have enough funding so I do not understand the logic to cut this further. I worry about my sons future because he is not getting the support he desperately needs. Furthermore this is our future generation and there should be more funds invested in our children's schooling especially after the covid pandemic. I do not support a cut in school funding at all and feel that savings could be made elsewhere	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Who in schools have the knowledge and experience to control devolved budgets. Tried before it didn't work. Extensive training will be required. Increased technology in schools is fine, but lack of funding means it goes out of date, state of the art schools don't exist because technology moves on. Contracts with IT providers may be a solution to this problem.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Maybe ask the schools what they are needing instead of using an out dated model that may work for one school but not another. What would a third party know about the true requirements individual schools are needing rather than corner cutting to save money	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School services are already on their knees and the young people of West Lothian deserve investment not cuts!! The council MUST ensure no cuts to education and school services or we are simply robbing our young people of the best possible education that can be delivered	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Does this imply schools will be more responsible for their own budgets? Will we see them asking parents for financial support? Or going into partnership with outside agencies?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Streamlined easy to access education resources would save money. Devolved School Management processes speeded up and modernised	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You should not be looking to save money here. City of Edinburgh school children aged P5-S6 are all getting an ipad this week. When are West Lothian children getting one? What is a Devolved School Management funding model???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would be concerned about changes within school that would be of detriment to equal learning opportunities for all learners. This has the potential to exacerbate inequalities within our communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think our children have suffered greatly during covid and to impact their education any further worries me greatly. Why would you not be ploughing all the resources available into the care and education of our children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support should NOT be reduced. Office support is vital. Be creative & (again) look at top tier management positions rather than front line vital staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education should be a priority and surely more efficient service (cutting services) is detrimental to the needs of the teachers and pupils	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School children have had a hard enough few years without further cuts. Resources need to be kept to tackle major issues such as bullying and bad behaviour - WLC is failing on this in our experience.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Absolutely not. The kids have been through enough and need consistency in staff and education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupils in mainstream Secondary schools have practically no support if they have additional needs. Cutting staffing support and teaching time to these pupils isn't helping them to achieve and raise their attainment levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Will there be cuts to ASN schools staffing. The current levels aren't sufficient enough to provide the support the children need. Staff are leaving to get jobs with better pay as the current pay isn't sufficient in the current cost of living crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School funding is already stretched. There are increasing numbers of children with ASN and support is already often diverted from their needs to cover staff absences. I find the proposal unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More information is required on third party provider, schools are already stretched in the staffing and services and all attempts to impact schools should be minimised at all costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If you are serious about cutting the education budget then show some balls and end the provision of separate Catholic schools. Whereas there is a legal requirement for Catholic schooling there is no requirement for this to be provided in separate schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, no detail. Reads like your plan is to reduce support for additional needs pupils by replacing staff with iPads and other technology. This Council administration seems determined to disproportionately impact the disabled community across all services. Not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Nope. Leave schools alone. These kids will be paying into your pension pot, they have suffered enough over the last few years, reducing school services will have an even worse effect on them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already staffed to the minimum. Support staff are difficult to employ. Lack of places in specialist provisions put huge demands on schools with no support given to already stretched staff. Schools cannot deliver what is expected with less support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I hope this doesn't mean a cut to pupil support staff means less support for the children who need it. My Grandson doesn't live in West Lothian - but he has Autism and help is required for him to remain in a main stream school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	WLC have already cut provision for support for learning to a level where it barely exists and many children who need extra support (especially after the last 2 years of home schooling) are not getting the teaching/ learning necessary to bring them back on track. WLC appear to have adopted a one size fits all mentality for education despite historical evidence that exists to show this doesn't work. Any reduction in teaching staff and/ or support staff will diminish the quality of education provided and further 'widen the gap'. Right now WLC should be investing in education not seeking to asset strip the engine room of our children's future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, I think there needs to be careful consideration of how this goes forward. Additional support in schools through Support for Learning Assistants and Pupil Support Workers are there for a reason. Their wages are already very low for what they do but they provide fantastic support to teaching staff who would struggle within classes trying to teach the curriculum when they have young people with disruptive behaviour due to ADHD, autism and various other needs. Teachers cannot spend time individually with each pupil to get them through essential curriculum work so support in classes is essential. Also, depending on what is meant by greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum, I think replacing people, ie teachers with technology to get pupils through parts of the curriculum is not a good way forward as pupils need that interaction with teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This sounds like more cuts?!? We should be investing in schools not the opposite!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	To decrease pupil support at a time that the mental health of our young people is at crisis point is a disastrous decision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools now are finding that there is a massive increase in pupils with additional needs with a large added pressure to teachers. This means that it is harder to support both ASN pupils are other pupils in the class not receiving the same level of support. More funding for Pupil Support Workers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What changes to the admin and support to staffing arrangements. If this means cuts then who is going to help pupils with the new technology etc especially if teacher time with pupils is being reduced?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is not enough support in school as it is. Composite classes in my opinion don't work. Why does there need to be such top heavy management in schools. I believe in digititation but children should still have books home with them and not online.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If this means following a similar route to English schools, where each school has its own governors, then I agree. Why should the council make broad decision which do not suite each individual school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am a parent of two children with additional support needs. They are both part time at school as they can't cope in mainstream and can't get them into a more suitable school due to funding.; There is not enough support in the schools they are in and their education is suffering greatly, I am aware that this again is due to lack of funding and staff resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I very much hope this does not involve reducing PSW allocations - we need more support staff in schools, not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is unclear how such devolvement will reduce costs whilst maintaining services - there is a lack of PSWs and admin support available at present - indeed there is a lack of special support for children and young people with severe needs. If this will essentially be a "shifting" of funding pressures to a school management level, then I do not agree with this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party providers have constant waiting lists and are over-run in their own establishments and are therefore not providing a service currently. This will not ensure that we are getting it right for every child and I cannot see how it will provide opportunities for efficient service delivery.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I was involved in PC at a local primary a few years back and HT had to be creative to stretch her resources then. I can't imagine there are £5m savings you can make without huge impact on schools pupils and staff. This is a sorry suggestion	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already struggling. This is not an area that should be being stripped further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cutting pupil support may back fire in costs due to young people failing at school/non attendance, causing problems in adolescence and unskilled or unemployable young adults.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is very short sighted to reduce money for schools. There need to be many more pupil support assistants and smaller classes. There are very few classes without children with additional support needs and behaviour issues, many classes have a high number of these children, who have no support, which directly impacts how the teachers can teach and the pupils can learn.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Further funding for schools is needed not a reduction. Children have a 2 year gap from covid that is still to be addressed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Would not want to see ANY cuts to my child's education provision when resources already at an all time low.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil Support Workers are essential resources for school. By removing or reducing them further (as previous budget cuts have forced schools to do) you are truly impacting upon the day to day positive experiences for all our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reduction in services and resources will never be efficient for education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Teachers are unaware as to how they can 'utilise resources' currently, nevermind with more cuts. Whilst most teachers are in agreement that teaching the curriculum through digital technology is helpful, the reality is that children do not have any access to working wifi or digital devices to be able to do this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More teaching assistants to help writhing the class rooms as teachers are struggling	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School resources are already severely stretched and only a bumbling buffoon would attempt to further cut spending to the education of the next generation. This should be increased, not reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is already poor support in schools. This is a necessary function and should not be reduced!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support staffing needs to be enhanced - not streamlined. Schools need full time admin.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staff are already spread too thin within schools and are highly underpaid. This would be detrimental for both pupil attainment and staff morale.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Section 1 D essentially says that West Lothian council are cutting expenditure in education. Our children deserve better not less !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No amount of I.T will cover the needs of children who are presently receiving extra help from PSW staff, nor will teachers be able to keep up with admin especially when waiting for photocopiers etc. And what happens when the internet goes off?! Who will deal with the disruptive children?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Why would anybody think that saving money from Education could be a feasible option when Scottish Education is already on it's knees from years under the same Government. Are we really going to penalize the future generation for our mistakes???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The schools need more money, resourcing and support, not less. There were 3 council workers cutting hedges in my street today, they had been trimmed recently (I can see a saving there). Stop cutting grass and just let it grow in vast majority of places.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There CANNOT be any reduction to the number of teaching staff, PSW or school admin. We are a completely stretched service and cannot handle any less bodies in the school building than we currently have. Everyone plays an essential part and without them it would be incredibly detrimental to the education of our children. There is no way we can maintain let alone raise attainment with less staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There CANNOT be any reduction to the number of teaching staff, PSW or school admin. We are a completely stretched service and cannot handle any less bodies in the school building than we currently have. Everyone plays an essential part and without them it would be incredibly detrimental to the education of our children. There is no way we can maintain let alone raise attainment with less staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Computers CANNOT teach, support and provide the same experiences as teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This saving if £5 million is awful. DO NOT cut school funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	PSWs are essential parts of the support and provision of education of our children. We CANNOT cope with any less PSW hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party providers seems a ridiculous suggestion when you have a wealth of highly educated, highly motivated and experienced teachers at your disposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The quality teaching delivered during RCCT time cannot be squeezed into the remainder of the school day. It is already crammed enough. Education and attainment will suffer without those 2.5hours of allocated time. Staff also work better with long stretched of RCCT. 15 minutes here and there does not give staff enough time to plan quality education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	PSWs are essential parts of the support and provision of education of our children. We CANNOT cope with any less PSW hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party providers seems a ridiculous suggestion when you have a wealth of highly educated, highly motivated and experienced teachers at your disposal. This saving if £5 million is awful. DO NOT cut school funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology is becoming too much in schools everything too much on computers or phones. Schools very much need the support staff for the teachers as there is a lot of children need extra help and it's difficult for teachers to give as much time as they would like with a big class. More support is needed especially for children with additional needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cutting £5 million from schools sounds like a huge thing to do! Especially as the restructuring of management was only around a £500,000 cut. My children's school already has a tiny amount of support staff and my son doesn't always get the support they feel he needs which they have often said was due to staff issues and lack of resources. I'd hate to see even more resources cut from school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	While I understand that it is important to make sure the education services are efficient, cutting funding to such a vital service does seem harsh, especially pupil support and help for those most vulnerable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School resources are already stretched to the maximum with teaching staff spending ridiculous amounts of their own money on supplies in order to deliver the high quality, engaging lessons that children deserve. There are not enough support staff in many schools and given the high level of additional needs and EAL children in many classes many staff are close to breaking point as it is without reducing or 'streamlining' this any further. You cannot expect schools to continue to raise attainment, parent children and prepare pupils for the wider world while constantly reducing the support and resources available. While digital learning clearly has it's place it does not replace experienced and passionate teaching and support staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff in schools are VITAL! due to ever increasing numbers of children who NEED additional support....this is a area where more not less public cash is required..the rights of the child must be respected and implicated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need more staff in schools along with smaller classes. I can imagine the cuts being suggested are to have less teachers & bigger classes. Technology in schools is not allocated fairly so a lot of schools have very few fully operating laptops, computers & smart boards. The servers can't cope with the up to date programmes!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think there are better places to cut £5m rather than from our future!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reduction of school funding should be kept to an absolute minimum. Education is fundamental. Further digitalisation of the delivery of the curriculum is not recommended and could be damaging to our next generation. Disagree with proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology has its place but children still need teachers and PSW to help them access this as well as having interactions with other children and adults.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	A re-alignment of places with demand.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are already stretched to breaking, with class sizes too big to teach and not enough support staff for the ever-growing number of ASN pupils with SERIOUS behaviour and learning difficulties. MORE money is required in education, not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	1.) Currently we already have no support offered for students who have ASN. This means not only is that pupil not receiving equity in education, but disruptions from this have a huge impact on the learning of all students. This is already misaligned with the Rights of the Child. Further cuts will create an environment in which all students suffer, resulting in school becoming a baby sitting service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	2.) We currently have >10 netbooks to furnish a department of 3 subjects dealing with more than 150+ seniors (not even thinking of the junior class loads). It would be AMAZING to have the appropriate technology, but in order to do this, the entire school would have to be updated to include actual wifi connection, powerstations and appropriate desks in which to use this technology. Also, as we learned during lockdown, school is more than something that can be thrown 'on line' it is about building relationships. The loss of these relationships has been detrimental to the growth of 90% of our returning students. Choosing to cut any support or teaching staff is at the least irresponsible, and at the worst demonstrates exactly how little the education system is respected in this country.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	technology can never replace staff effectively in a school setting. We need more teachers and support workers, not more technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology does not deliver the curriculum- teachers do!!! Technology can support with this but cannot and should not take over the job of teachers. We need more, not less support staff. We have 33 percent of pupils in WLC with ASN, this figure is growing each year. We need to be improving staffing ratios to help with this, not cutting them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I disagree with reducing staffing levels in schools, I feel school staff are often underpaid and undervalued. Teaching (and working with children in general) is demanding and often not acknowledged. I feel schools are understaffed and often a great deal of "teaching" can fall to parents and guardians. All children should be afforded equal opportunity, their success should not depend on how involved their parents are in their education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Would not like to see any redundancies through this or a reduction of education provided on any level.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All schools should be receiving more pupil support staff and permanent contracts for teachers, not reducing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reductions in staffing in schools would lead to significantly reduced quality of experience for children. Relationships would suffer and I can imagine existing staff would bear the burden, leading to higher levels of burnout and ill health in an already stretched service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I personally feel that it is currently a struggle to provide additional support to pupils with the funding and resources we currently have and feel it would be detrimental to cut this further. Use of technology to deliver the curriculum throughout lockdown was not effective and pupil engagement was poor despite efforts to make it as accessible as possible. The government confidently promised schools funding for technology which is yet to be seen so whilst this theoretically sounds great I'm concerned that practically it will not be possible. I'd be open to learning more about this though.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We cannot reduce the number of PSWs in schools. They must be retained if not added to. Schools do not function without these members of staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is needed in schools . Teachers need more support not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Major concerns; Schools are already underfunded and staff overworked leading to high levels of stress and I'll health; We must invest in our education system at a time when families are relying on schools even more to provide a safe, warm space where their children receive quality education to prepare them for their future jobs. To cut funding is inconceivable at this time and I urge you to reconsider such proposals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do hope this means providing more support staff and not taking them away, because the latter will be hugely detrimental to all involved, the teachers/practitioners, the rest of the children but most of all the children requiring the additional support. It is not child centred practice, it is not equity, or anything else that GIRFEC, Building the ambition, CFE the UNCRC, and all other legislation or documentation instills in practitioners to strive for. It just makes everybody's job harder and therefor is worse for all the children. Support staff are invaluable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am wary of any increase in technology - what lockdown has shown us is that there is a need for more in-person and face to face teaching and support required, not less. Furthermore, pupils support services are already chronically understaffed, underfunded and overworked - any cuts to these areas would be tantamount to educational devastation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If the schools want this then they need funding to ensure all children are supported! Not all parents have the money to support this! This current climate leaves many families struggling to support their children at home never mind now being asked to send devices into school!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would be very concerned if pupil support staffing resource were to be reduced. This is vital to enable children to achieve their potential, enable wellbeing including positive mental health and reduce inequalities. Any reductions would limit children's life chances at a crucial time, store up mental health issues and increase inequalities, measures that would incur increased costs in the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	To my knowledge when you bring in outside help it costs considerably more than hiring staff to do the work which is needed. If outside help is required then obviously positions are available within the school to help pupils, more effectively too as they are in school. Schools are already crying out for support staff but you are gradually getting rid of them so pupils do not get the help they need when they need it. Early intervention at an early age is more beneficial than waiting for outside help which is not always available as they will be spread even thinner if they have to provide help to all schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staffing in schools is at crisis point. There are not enough staff or allocated hours to support the rising needs of our pupils. Inclusion policies must have the necessary support, resources and staff in place, this needs increasing significantly rather than cut. There is already an impact on our children as result of previous cuts and further cuts in this area are beyond comprehension.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technology will require more investment in technology in order to be successful. Investment in online resources will also be essential. Administrative and support staffing are already stretched and ASN pupils require more support staff allocation. Reducing costs through school staffing will be entirely detrimental to children in West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Concerned about making changes to pupil support - what areas would be reduced and what will the impact on our learners be? Arguably we have some of the highest levels of deprivation and additional support needs - reducing support levels is a backwards step at a time when the council have already reduced their ASN specialist provisions. Reduction in such supports will only further exacerbate the psycho social challenges our young people face. The impact of this will be life long and you must carefully consider the longer term aims of such a proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	These cuts will breed inequity in an already inequitable market for our students. Cuts must be made but these cuts must not further exacerbate the challenges we have worked so hard to soothe over the past decade.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional support for vulnerable groups is shocking in this area. And therefore reducing the demand for this even more would have a huge impact. Mainstream pupils are supported with many groups, bussed to sporting events, taken on school trips, supported by active schools, given many opportunities. But pupils with disabilities are often ignored. They are not given the same sporting opportunities, additional support staff have little or no training to deal with complex needs. Funding is limited so people are made to feel they are an inconvenience and unsupported. This are needs to be increased, support staff need to have value and all children with additional needs require the offer of the same opportunities to that of mainstream.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a parent, myself and other parents found that using technology to teach the children did not work. Some children can't learn that way and will really struggle. I found also that unless we sat on our childrens shoulder they could easily not pay attention. I feel that this is a mistake and a chance to go for 'low hanging fruit' by cutting teaching numbers. Childrens education needs more money and support as it has fallen away the past few years not cuts. Scotlands education system used to be one of the best but with all the extra holidays and now proposed teaching cuts our education system will soon be one of the worst	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School funding should be protected above all else. More and more is being asked if teaching staff but without the resources to support them. Mental health in young people will continue to be an increasing challenges and schools will need more help to tackle this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Oh dear, your quest for more technology will only be at the expense of special needs children and disabled children having less school caters and helpers and there are so very few of them at the moment to go round. I know this personally so more finds for carers for children please. £5 million would go a long way for them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We already have an unacceptable teacher to pupil ratio at Williamston. Our daughter is not getting the support required due to this and with an increase in housing this will only get worse. The staff level should be increased not decreased	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing admin and pupil support is an mistake. They are paid very little and, without them, schools would cease to function.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not think these elements should be linked. We need more support staff in school not less. Schools are best placed to know their needs not third party providers. As covid proved technology is beneficial but human beings and close face to face contact is far more valuable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This would be detrimental for learners to have access to high quality teaching and learning. Additionally this would be worrying as an employee on a fixed term contract in relation to job prospects within WLC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I strongly feel school resources need to be highly invested, children are already behind and this does not seem to have been rectified. Third party providers may cost more? If funds are reduced in education it will increase other costs further down the line.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Losing more staff from schools is a ridiculous idea as we are already stretched to the limit. This is due to the amount of pupils with complex needs being placed in mainstream schools with little or no support for these pupils. Teachers cannot 'Get it Right For Every Child' if all their time is taken up trying to support pupils who are unable to access the curriculum independently and they have no support staff in class to help support these pupils. Inclusion/Presumption of Mainstream only works if you have the staff to implement it - we currently do not so to reduce staff further will lead to a massive strain on already exhausted teachers. If the idea is to have teachers leaving the profession then this is the right way to do it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is concerning. There are already huge differences in funding for schools across West Lothian. Some schools viewed as having high SIMD scores receive scant budgets and resources in comparison to others. Some of our secondary schools appear to be awash with money - and access funding from PEF and SAC budgets. Other schools are scrimping by on very little and are struggling, barely able to buy jotters, pencils and so on. Linlithgow Academy fares much worse in this respect than, say, St Kentigern's Academy in Blackburn.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The scrapping of Autism Units across West Lothian and putting the ASD pupils into mainstream classes has caused extra pressures on pupils, classes, and staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	From working online during lockdown with young people, it is difficult to provide a good level of education through a digital medium - this should be a support. More students also have additional needs every year and they need the support provided by the pupil support staff to be able to achieve and feel safe.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology is not currently up to scratch so would not be able to support this movement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is a terrible idea. Education is the future of our society and is central to social mobility. Children took a huge hit during covid for a disease that hardly effected them, and we owe them more resources not less. Strongly opposed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There should be no cut here at all. To truly GIRFEC we need continued and actually additional funding. More support staff for our pupils work ASN, particularly in line with the presumption of mainstream and to support those within specialist provisions and more teachers to support teaching and learning in smaller groups within mainstream.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Within education work, the effects of the pandemic has proved so much gap in children's learning and deteriorating secure attachment which is caused by online learning. Children need to learn and to be nurtured at the same time. The classroom is already a hectic job and if all support will be taken away or reduced, what else is left for children's future?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again this sound like less nurturing approach to education systems.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not believe 'a greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum' would be beneficial to the children. They need a qualified teacher present to support their needs when learning in all areas of the curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Leave schools out of this money saving plan. They need every penny and every bit of support they can get.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This worries me. £5mi is a massive saving which means cuts when the kids need more support not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Through lockdown, digital technologies were a necessary to deliver courses but using digital technology to deliver more courses is a step backwards. Pupils learn best in a face to face environment. More use of, for example, the Virtual Campus for delivering courses will lose this interaction,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This will result in job losses for teaching staff and a negative impact on attainment and equity for young people through having fewer opportunities available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Less resources in schools....they are limited currently. Some S1 pupils ie West calder high School pupils have had trips and residential whilst st kents s1s have not been given the same opportunity. Not equal fair or equitable. St kents needs investment and travel and residential opportunities for our young people. Make it fairer as its not currently. Remember invest now for the return of the future workforce. This is now highlighted here. I hope to see action. Teaching staff are excellent but Council need to support them as they are not currently.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Most of the schools I know have a huge increase of ASN children due to the Scottish government's inclusion policy so if there are further cuts, this is going to majorly impact the quality of education that children receive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Also, there is a lot of burnout and lack of retention for teaching staff, especially new staff. Cutting funding further would only serve to increase these issues, causing more staff vacancies and a poorer education for our children. Please do not touch education. This is something I would definitely change my voting oover!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is efficiency just a euphemism for "we have no money to employ you". The most valuable resource in a classroom is a teacher/ pupil support worker. Removing this and relying on technology will have a negative impact on our most vulnerable learners who are already deprived of 1-1 support they require which has also been removed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is efficient deliver another euphemism for a lack of funding. A teacher or pupil support worker is the most valuable resource and to pull funding away from schools which are already resourced well with technology will just put further strain on raising attainment and will mean our most vulnerable ASN learners are deprived of additional 1-1 support they so urgently require.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	this is hugely worrying - school are woefully understaffed and core staff are at breaking point. This is not a good cost cutting measure, it will be unpopular with parents and school staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, need details not just general jargon!! However, we need to put MORE MONEY into our Education services, not less. We need smaller class sizes and more teachers. Schools are at breaking point, teachers are on their knees already with lack of support and trying to teach an over crowded curriculum whilst dealing with increasing numbers of behavioural issues within the class. More support and not less is required. Far less "Getting it right for every child", we aren't getting it right for any child or adult at the moment. So a HUGE NO to this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In my experience additional support pupils in schools need more staff allocation to ensure their safety and that of the staff and other pupils in their classes. Agree with other suggestions though.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How about losing some of the reporting and hyper-metrics that are required so that teachers have the capacity to teach well. And I'm not a teacher - I can see what's happening though.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Schools have responsibility to report on pupil progress.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education should be the priority of any government. Reducing spending on the most vulnerable students is a retrograde step which must be halted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not all schools have enough tech to accommodate this. Many schools are still sharing devices throughout the schools. Cuts to education usually mean twice the work for teachers to fit everything in (they are already struggling to fit in what they need to do in the hours they have).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any reduction of staff would have serious detrimental impact on learners. Again, many schools are struggling without sufficient support staff to enable children to meet their full potential. Primary schools often have many children on the spectrum (and/or other needs) which need 1-1 support, something which they just don't have the staff to cover. This has been made particularly hard given the amount of children who have been unsuccessful at securing a place at a "specialised school" in recent years.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Teachers are still struggling with the after affects of covid. The recovery phase does not simply stop because the council has decided it should. Schools are fighting to regain the respect, educational attitude and attendance they had prior to covid as well as ensuring health and wellbeing, nurture, covering the curriculum and trying so hard to raise attainment all the while dealing with their own, and family health issues/ concerns and raising household costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is a requirement for more school resources not less. Staff are under considerable stress to deliver a comprehensive curriculum that is being hindered by lack of staffing and more children being entered into mainstream with considerable ASN requirements. Funding meant for whole school requirements is currently being filtered into providing 1:1 support for children with complex needs which then takes the support from others that need it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This seems a bad idea: 5m less for schools. Have we 5 m of inefficiencies? I am afraid not. I honestly think that you should think carefully about this saving: you are investing less in our future	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum - Digital learning is not a substitute for real actual learning (nobody has a great in depth discussion with a computer and therefore learning is superficial at best.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements - Teachers require more support to deliver Quality Teaching not less PSW's are shamefully underpaid for what the do and cutting back in support workers for education will seriously damage the inclusion policy of the council and the young learners will suffer as a result. These jobs need done and teachers that already work in excess of 45hrs a week may not be able to pick up the slack and you may even find the Council will have a recruitment problem for teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing resources reduces the quality of provision. Reducing resources when ELC settings are open 1140 hours a year stretches provision and learning experiences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already up against it regarding budget, so this would be a mistake. Again our technology is already outdated and wifi signal sub par , so this would just secure schools and pupils being negatively impacted further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are issues with the current technology in schools linking with parents/carers so not convinced this will work. My sons have been identified as missing from school when they are in the school building for instance. Logging an absence without a phone call would be useful	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Probably impossible to achieve without impacting the core functions of the schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am not keen on the idea of Technology taking over from human input.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education for all our children is of great importance for the future of west lothian and beyond. Pupils who require extra support are already not receiving this from WLC due to cuts already made in this area. It is a false economy to make too many cuts in this area, as to do so will cause a knock on effect on the pupils whole life, the local community, and of other services such as social care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reduction in staffing could prove to be a false economy with regards attainment and achievement of young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party support is always a poor alternative.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Definitely not. The schools have been hit hard enough. Teachers run off their feet and pupils suffering no way	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing staff in education would be the final straw in ruining our education system.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools, particularly primary are not coping and are at breaking point. We are understaffed, stressed and failing to meet children's needs daily as a result of current budget cuts as it is. Without our support staff, teachers and resources schools will crumble. Pupil needs and behaviours are becoming increasingly severe yearly as a result of parental stress and mental health, abuse, violence and lack of parental skills. As a result, staff are not coping. We are still expected to meet attainment levels with all of this in mind and this is not possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are still expected to meet attainment levels with all of this in mind and this is not possible. We need more adults on the ground in order to educate and survive or schools and our children's futures are going to crumble. Cutting budgets for education is the worst thing you could do for our children and staff. We need these human and physical resources in order to meet pupil needs, keep children safe and help them to achieve.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing staff in education would be the final straw in ruining our education system. Schools, particularly primary are not coping and are at breaking point. We are understaffed, stressed and failing to meet children's needs daily as a result of current budget cuts as it is. Without our support staff, teachers and resources schools will crumble.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil needs and behaviours are becoming increasingly severe yearly as a result of parental stress and mental health, abuse, violence and lack of parental skills. As a result, staff are not coping. We are still expected to meet attainment levels with all of this in mind and this is not possible. We need more adults on the ground in order to educate and survive or schools and our children's futures are going to crumble. Cutting budgets for education is the worst thing you could do for our children and staff. We need these human and physical resources in order to meet pupil needs, keep children safe and help them to achieve.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must receive an increased budget to meet the needs of all learners. Money must be used to enrich learning and technology must not be used to replace teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must receive an increased budget to meet the needs of all learners. Money must be available to enrich learning, technology must not be used to replace teachers. Pupil support workers are essential and are frequently used to support the most vulnerable children. Without them, learning would not be as effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must receive an increased budget to meet the needs of all learners. Money must be available to increase the technology available to enrich learning. Technology should not be used to replace teachers. Pupil support workers are crucial to support the most vulnerable. Learning and teaching will suffer and attainment will not increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must receive an increased budget to meet the needs of all learners.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must receive an increased budget to meet the needs of all learners. Money must be available to enrich learning, technology must not be used to replace teachers. Pupils support workers are crucial for supporting the most vulnerable. Without this support, learning and teaching would not be as effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must receive an increased budget to meet the needs of all learners. Money must be available to enrich learning and technology must not be used to replace teachers. Pupil support workers are essential to all aspects of school life and without them learning and teaching would be significantly less effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must receive an increased budget to meet the needs of all learners. Money must be used to enrich learning, technology should not be used to replace teachers. PSW's are essential and needed to support the most vulnerable pupils, without them teaching would not be as effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Teachers cannot be expected to deliver core curriculum to the same standard in less time if they are deployed to other tasks and replaced by PSWs/CAs for 'clubs' - the long term impact of this will be a 'lost' generation who are already at significant disadvantage due to lockdowns and the concomitant social/emotional impact of these events. Greater use of technology than is the case now, is to be avoided as the lack of involvement in lockdown learning demonstrated - this is a 'tool' to be deployed with skill and professional judgement by experienced teaching professionals - it is not a replacement for face-to-face learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is critical that no changes are made to school funding resources. Our children are still recovering from the short and long-term impacts of the global pandemic and economic slowdowns - many of which will not be felt for years to come. It is critical that we do not reduce teacher numbers, nor can we replace teachers with PSWs or CAs as this creates further issues for children in terms of stability, relationship building and willingness to attend school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This proposal is far too vague to have an opinion on. What 'resources' would be 'utilised' and what 'additional support' would be created by cutting educational funding? Lockdown has taught us that technology being used to deliver the curriculum is not very effective. And the technology in schools is from last century so unfit for purpose.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is the bedrock of a society, these young people are our next Nurses, doctors and industry leaders. Any reduction from this budget would feel like pulling the ladder up behind you. I am sure you can dress the savings up in nice woolly comfort words but cuts to this budget would hard the whole of society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No money should be cut from school budgets! More money should be allowed to schools and less to bonuses for higher management within the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Admins within school are under a great deal of pressure with more work being added to their working day and I can't see how hours can be reduced and being able to meet requires of Management and Teaching staff. This also applies to PSWs who are a vital part of a school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are understaffed, under resourced and under funded already. Cutting staff and resources will not only ramp up staff stress and absences but will also leave our young people without any chance of success or attainment. Pupil needs are at an all time high and the demand for human and physical resources is therefore needed even more than ever.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need more adults on the ground in order to educate and survive or schools and our children's futures are going to crumble. Cutting budgets for education is the worst thing you could do for our children and staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing staff in education would be the final straw in ruining our education system.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools, particularly primary are not coping and are at breaking point. We are understaffed, stressed and failing to meet children's needs daily as a result of current budget cuts as it is. Without our support staff, teachers and resources schools will crumble. Pupil needs and behaviours are becoming increasingly severe yearly as a result of parental stress and mental health, abuse, violence and lack of parental skills. As a result, staff are not coping. We are still expected to meet attainment levels with all of this in mind and this is not possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not clear what you are meaning! but if your intention is to cut services for kids with ASN which I hope not then this is totally wrong as this is in much need of funds so that these kids get the deserved education they are so entitled to and taught by qualified teachers in smaller set classes. A lot of these kids are highly intelligent and deserve more than a blanket curriculum designed for lower level. Social Anxiety holds a lot of these kids back not their intelligence and if these classes were smaller then they most likely will have opportunity to show they can do what they would be doing if they could manage an average class.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Strongly oppose this, the schools in west Lothian are already failing well behind and need more nit less support. In addition, more tech is known to increase inequalities gaps not close them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	A reduction in school staff in my opinion is not a great thing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Decreasing the amount of teachers will have a big effect on the children and teaching staff. Cuts to hours will mean that more will have to be squeezed into the school day and children won't have the time to consolidate what they have learnt.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff must be protected as these jobs tend to be the first to go but are vital to the ever increasing needs in our schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already operating with the minimum staff requirements. Any cuts to school staff, particularly teachers and psw would have a large impact on the ability of schools to keep children safe and deliver a quality education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already insufficiently funded. More pupil support is needed, not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think that schools are key and we should not be cutting down on teaching staff or pupil support. As it is, we have a shortage of staff and this impact is being sorely felt in schools. I think it is essential that we invest in our young people and not short change them. It is important that schools keep up to date with technology and use this where appropriate but currently there are severe resources shortages in this area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional support cuts are already having a significant impact on young people in our schools. They should not be cut further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I firmly disagree with this. Making cuts in schools in terms of admin staff and pupil support workers is increasing the workload for teaching staff in school as the jobs they do still need done at the end of the day and only leaves teaching staff to do them. Therefor results in the lower quality education provided to all children and burn out and exhausted teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You are completely devaluing education. These children are the future workforce. There is already a huge attainment gap and this would increase it further. These children deserve high quality experiences with qualified teaching staff. There is already a lot of pressure for teachers due to workload, lack of resources and having children who struggle in a mainstream setting. PSW are extremely valuable to teachers as they work with groups and support individual children who are struggling in the class. If they are no longer used in this way, the attainment gap will widen as teachers will struggle to support the children who are off track. There are already so many needs in a class that it is impossible so support them all without help. Teaching time will greatly reduce if the class teacher has to deal with disruptive behaviour without PSW. Before making any decisions, you should go into primary schools and see what it is like already. This will show the damages you will cause if you go ahead with these ideas. The children deserve better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support in school is a vital part of the school function if this is to be reduced further then it will literally be at breaking point. We are already under staffed for the job we are being asked to do reducing this further is only going to make things worse not better	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Further cuts to an already struggling and under performing education department are indefensible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This will have a huge impact on schools, losing teaching and support staff along with the ability to buy appropriate essential resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Provision by way of third party providers always end up costing more than keeping the tasks in house. There is also a need for an internal member of staff to check the work before it is implemented - not really a saving or as simple as sending it out to a third party ony	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are already short staffed in school as it is, with teachers being stretched to full capacity every week. This does not allow for collaborative working, therefore impacting significantly on the delivery of the curriculum and attainment. This has already hindered my own career progression as there is no room to expand our department with qualifications offered and has also meant that I cannot carry out an enquiry project to introduce music provision in primary schools, creating links with cluster primaries and allowing for a more progressive and consistent curriculum from 3-18 as stated in the Curriculum for Excellence policy. At the moment, pupils are not receiving expressive arts subjects in primary school to an acceptable standard, if at all, which impacts massively on our uptake and attainment at senior level. This is not an equitable approach by the council;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Headteachers have responsibility for prioritising devolved resources to meet the curricular requirements within their schools and ensure the delivery of the Broad General Education. Professional learning opportunities are devolved at school level to meet the needs of all staff.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So many of our additional needs pupils do not receive the help and support that they need and deserve to be able to thrive in education. I have asked many times for pupils to have support in class with them and have been told no due to already diminished staffing levels. This is not acceptable. Pupils are unable to access learning because of budget cuts, through no fault of the classroom teachers who are doing everything they can to support these pupils to the best of their ability whilst also delivering curriculum to hundreds of other pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Its important for children with additional support need to be fully supported- not enough support currently	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	reliance on 3rd party providers can be costly, if those people actually considering contacts, don't have a full understanding and implications that can a rise.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	By devolving the finding to schools the head teacher will have less time to manage the day to day running of schools. Technology is not the answer to improve attainment and reach the significant number of children who are under achieving or have live with high deprivation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More staff are needed in schools not less. The facilities of special provisions have reduced in recent years which means children in mainstream schools require more support not less! To enable our next generations to reach their full potential and support our economic systems money needs to be spent on supporting them in schools, not taking it away!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools cannot cope with less SLT. The workload of the current SLT in schools is already untenable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any reduction in this adds to additional workload for teachers. This is absolutely unacceptable as teachers are struggling with overwhelming workloads already!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party providers would not be acceptable to teach our children during the core day as they are no substitute for properly qualified GTCs Teachers. For after school or additional activities they are fine but not to replace teaching contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already stretched for resources - we should be looking t increasing support; (With staff) for our children not less. The needs of our children are increasing with the Inclusion Policy that exist and is only workable with adequate support in classes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please don't cut pupil support further we are an integral part of the school that is already understaffed grossly and any further reductions will push staff to beyond their limits. The young people rely on us for support and reducing that or taking it away will place them at greater risk or harm and certainly in terms of mental health this would be a massive blow. The daily running of the school in terms of attendance and getting the young people in and settled in the morning would be hugely impacted. Overall if you reduce the pupil support provision you risk causing much more harm than good.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unsure how you can reduce admin and psw's in schools when they are constantly working more hours than they a paid at the moment. Rarely put in overtime sheets and do this overtime out of goodwill. Maybe look at the bigger picture where there are staff in schools who are not performing. Not the staff who work hard and are committed to the job, school and children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools have already been stripped to the bone of staff and resources. Schools need more pupil support workers and more specialised teachers to manage the ever increasing number of pupils with specialised needs. If we are to rely on a greater use of technology, we need to be provided with that technology in the first place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The resourcing of schools has already reached and exceeded a critical point. Resources are tight and further restrictions will impact directly of the type of pedagogy that the council wishes to promote e.g. play. Without suitable resourcing for this children will miss out on the benefits it brings, e.g choosing from a range of materials to create a picture is a meaningful learning experience requiring the child to make decisions. If there are limited resources the child does not have the opportunity to learn by making decisions and evaluating the impact of the decisions they have made. Rich learning experiences are in danger of becoming time-fillers with little impact on the child's learning and development.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	For a start there is not enough school places and secondly if your schools were concentrating on preparing children for a life in the world instead of teaching them things they do not need to know then education would not be an issue but the past few years the education system in West Lothian is absolutely awful	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The school system is not fit for purpose for the children of today and is not allowing opportunities for children to learn and grow at their natural pace;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staff are not in a position where they have tolerance and understanding and are not able to deliver a fit for purpose curriculum for the children of today. Bringing more resources instead of developing the strategy is the issue	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School is the most important part of a young persons growing up - it's a place they socialize, feel safe and have a secure environment where they can learn for their future. The education system is already struggling with reduction in staff and resources - department budgets are being cut and resources are more expensive to buy so some departments are finding it difficult to continue to function as it is - a reduction in school resources and funding is not an option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	At a time following Covid when we are seeing increasing numbers of students with additional support needs and mental health difficulties, this will make school even more traumatic for some of these students and will further increase pressure on teachers and school staff, many of whom are struggling themselves as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The reallocation of staff used to provide additional support in schools to cover core staffing requirements will have a hugely negative impact on some of the most vulnerable children with reduced in-class support, additional teaching and alternative provisions no doubt being withdrawn or reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	At all costs, the staffing levels and class sizes in our primary schools must be protected - preferably improved upon. In addition, the standard of graduates and the training with which they are provided is deteriorating and should be enhanced. The negative effects of an excessively wide, fragmented curriculum rather than one which makes our younger children literate and numerate as they begin their secondary education, is vital. We cannot, at secondary level, fully repair damage already caused, in these areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	At all costs, the staffing levels and class sizes in our primary schools must be protected - preferably improved upon. In addition, the standard of graduates and the training with which they are provided is deteriorating and should be enhanced. The negative effects of an excessively wide, fragmented curriculum rather than one which makes our younger children literate and numerate as they begin their secondary education, is vital. We cannot, at secondary level, fully repair damage already caused, in these areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Totally disagree with this proposal, schools, their provision and resources are already stretched. The increasing numbers of young people with additional needs is a clear indication that a reduction in this area would be counter productive and is not providing or meeting the needs of all children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If there were more staff in every school then the council wouldn't have any problems	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Inclusion has led to a significant increase in pupils with ASN's attending mainstream schools and at present many are simply being failed by schools who do not have the required number of support staff to accommodate and adequately cater for these additional support needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a teacher I'm deeply concerned about these proposed cuts. Teaching staff are already pushed to breaking point by the workload and there is already a lack of support staff in most schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School Admin Staff are underpaid and undervalued. Schools over the last 6 years are being	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is not worth the savings proposed. Support staff and admin staff are ESSENTIAL members of the school. I highly suggest you come into a school and shadow them for a day to see the insane workload they have. Removing their invaluable help would be suicide for the schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I thought it interesting how many of many colleagues found the recent online training about De-escalation infuriating and found the whole process negative and even counter-productive. Someone in WLC might look at figures for course completion and see it as a success without really understanding the impact. It gave the sense (particularly with the repeated sections) that the person who signed it off is remote to its impact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already struggling for resources as it is, this is not going to benefit any of the young people across West Lothian. There are schools who barely have supplies to allow pupils to do even basic art lessons. There are schools sitting full of broken instruments that cannot be used and cannot be replaced because there is not budget for it. You cannot continue to take away from schools and yet still expect pupils to learn and staff to teach. This is an outrageous proposal and shows that you care not for the future of our young learners at all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are not enough staff as it is to deliver the Scottish Governments ambitious curriculum. Especially since the council has taken away allocated spaces to schools such as Burnhouse. Schools are dealing with a wider variety of pupils than ever. Many coming from Primary with IEPs and PIDs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please see management structure in previous answer. No savings should be made in schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support in schools is already suffering and has been with cuts in recent years. Schools lack the support of adequate resources and pupils support workers to fully meet learners needs. The number of pupils with ASN continues to rise. The council must fund MORE support staff in schools not reduce this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support workers and specialist teachers are vital to the school. If the changes suggested are implemented, the quality of learning in West Lothian schools will be dramatically decreased because teachers are only one person. Without the support and input of support workers and specialist teachers, the delivery of the curriculum in the time given will become impossible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The support structure that is already in place is by far not good enough. Support staff are continually overstretched and dare I say under paid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The key factor in pupil development, support and improvement is working with qualified teachers and supportive adults. Pupils learn best when directed and supported by a trained, nurturing individual. This cannot be achieved through technology. In fact many pupils are "tired" of this approach due to online learning and lockdown. They lack motivation to complete these tasks and much prefer the social and human side of learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	5 million needs to be invested in schools not saved from the budget! Schools need more support staff and more control over those staff with a greater pool of supply teachers. They need more specialist teachers in music, PE and the arts and general. They need new books and class sets of computers!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	They need bigger buildings and halls for performances and PE lessons. Outdoor classrooms and resources are needed to develop our young peoples learning. So many things that schools need and all that ever happens is budget cuts. Disgraceful planning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't think spending less on schools is a good idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not support this. I do not want to see greater use of technology in schools, I want to see more appropriately skilled humans in my children's schools. I want staff to get to know my children and work with them/support them. I do not want a pool of resources popping in and out as no progress will ever be made that way. This might save money in the short time, but the long term effects on our children could be absolutely devastating.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools should not be adversely affected by council budget cuts. They staff are already stretched. Any impact on the cut back will result in a failure of our children and their future education. This in turn has a knock on effect with job skills in their future for them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again reducing staff. No wonder kids struggle at school, the staff don't have enough time to educate them properly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Absolutely NO more reductions to education. It's a disgrace as it is, and massively under funded	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So i suspect you mean getting rid of personnel here ie staff. There can be nothing more digital as already exists	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as school services aren't cut. We are being told weekly "were not doing that anymore" etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am aware that currently a lot of work with children with Challenging and/or Additional Needs is being provided by Pupil Support workers (not advanced Pupil Support workers). These staff members are low paid and have the least training and are being put under a great deal of stress by having to work in very challenging and difficult circumstances with few appropriate resources to enable them to meet the needs of the children in their care. This is the current situation so further cuts must not impact on them further or we will begin losing valuable staff members due to burn out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Equally, children and young people have just come through one of the most challenging times of their lives. Getting back into the Education system has been very difficult and many have struggled with this. Any big changes could have a detrimental effect and must be thought through with this at mind.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would not support any cuts to school funding!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Every school needs set resources and staffing is critical to children and their needs, if use take anymore out, the present pressure will get worse	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are often multiple pupils with complex additional support needs in my classes, and I have no support. We have a handful of pupil support workers in our school, far fewer than we need for the number of pupils who require such support. It is already extremely difficult for me to support all pupils in my class to access the curriculum. Making cuts to these services would only make this already dire situation even worse. I fear that more and more teachers would feel demoralised and this could lead to many teachers leaving the profession/having to take time off for stress etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	With regards to additional support, if the Scottish Government (and by extension Local Government) is truly serious about 'Getting it right for every child', then they should be investing more in additional support. As a secondary school teacher, I know from experience that we are already vastly under-resourced in terms of additional support. I am challenged everyday by the gap between what the government and West Lothian Council say they value (that is, inclusion) and the reality of teaching in a mainstream school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is a lack of support staff across most primary and secondary school education settings so cutting further back on this would be a big disadvantage for the children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support cuts??? Haven't our kids lost enough with covid/lockdown.. They are the future of this country.. they need to be invested in.. not pinching pennies.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Why build so many new schools in Winchburgh, which encourages separatism due to religion? Unnecessary costs!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No changes will be supported.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already understaffed so reducing staff ie pupil support workers this will only directly impact our kids learning at a time which we should be supporting this more than ever after covid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Administrative roles and pupil support within schools are vital. Any move to streamline these (aka cut down on numbers) will have a detrimental effect on the running of school and ultimately impact the service students receive and therefore attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Concerned that this will result in less teachers in an already overstretched service. Current teachers are at breaking point and any moves to create a more 'efficient' service will result in burnout and an already higher sickness rate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	ensure pupils receive the majority of work in school, and via a human	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Your schools are in need of urgent repair and modernisation, the teachers need help with disruptive and disrespectful pupils, and cutting £5m from their budget is unthinkable and frankly shameful on your part.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is one area where i have really strong views. The education system within the area needs investment, not a reduction in spending. My son was repeatedly failed by his primary school because they didn't have the staff numbers or skills to recognise his dyslexia quickly enough. He's not suffering from mental health issues (depression and anxiety) because he thinks he's stupid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to ensuring an appropriately qualified workforce to provide appropriate learning experiences, meeting the needs of all learners
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So privatisation of school services then. No!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In my eyes this is an awful move as children are the adults of the future and as currently many are unable to work out change without a till showing them, unable to spell use correct grammar to kention a few things	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Everything should be in house, no outsourced service, but again this must not allow any reduction in quality of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	administrative and pupil support workers are very important within a school. Pupil support workers help pupils access the curriculum by supporting class teachers a valuable asset to a school community reducing staffing would be very detrimental to the school community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Removing pupil support staff and learning online is not the way to use money effectively. This will only widen the gap in educational achievement and the council will be directly responsible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I really hope this doesn't mean less teacher facing lessons. Home schooling was far from successful apart from private schools. Hopefully we can maintain the classroom setups that are currently available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil Support Workers are essential in supporting children not only with raising attainment but also regarding supporting the health and well-being of learners, particularly those who have additional needs supporting social inclusion. Additional support has been used to support covid recovery and also to raise attainment. They have also been used to cover staff absences as there is challenges accessing supply teachers. There is a concern that if staffing is scaled back then how will schools ensure there is a teacher in front of a class when teachers are absent or in times when it can take time to employ a teacher? Digital technologies are already being used - there is no substitute for teacher/ pupil dialogue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staff to child ratios must be maintained to ensure high standards and an upward trend in education results and quality within the sector and enough support is in place for all pupils. I am 100% against any cut backs affecting education and 100% in favour of increased funding to ensure quality of service and security for childrens education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The schools need better funding and support. Facilities in some schools need updating and refreshing. If there is an option to do this independently then it could be more cost effective allowing schools to fund raise on their own. Supporting staff are vital to school services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As far as I can see, schools are already working with the bare minimum of staff to support an ever growing number of children with a wide variety of additional support needs. Extra resource is needed in this area, rather than efficiencies.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff are key to the children, there is not enough support for the children just now without reducing. Technology is great however not suited to everyone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is there more information on this? A link to a paper written? "through a review of provision by third party providers" - What does this mean? £5 million is a lot of money, hopefully we are not sacrificing education standards for children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are so many children who needs additional support at school. If they don't get help at school they will be left on their own.....this is sad as again children will be paying the biggest price od council's saving program (€). We should concentrate on our new generation, support them and looking for the saving in different directions....	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional support is already struggling to support the extreme needs within our inclusive schools. With the presumption of main stream, we have a huge range of needs within every classroom in our schools. There are already huge issues with a lack of support in some areas and this will cause even more challenges and ultimately will mean we will be failing many, many of our young people. We spend so much time in our school teaching children about their 'rights' from the United Nations rights of the child. Wjere are our children's rights here?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support staff are not trained and are not paid enough to assume this role. I feel very strongly that this would also be detrimental to children's learning and their school experience. The roles within schools are already so tightly stretched, there is no space for any more additional responsibilities within current remits.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a member of school staff and as a parent of pupils in WL schools I am strongly against this proposal. The proposal also does not outline specifically what these changes would look like - which is not helpful at all. I hope that the proposal would not require pupil support staff to undertake responsibilities which should be that of a fully qualified teacher, and only a teacher	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There has been so much in the last couple of years about the negative effect on children's education due to covid and school closures. This is a time we should be investing in children's education to support their learning and giving children the best opportunity to succeed, not cutting budgets by £5 million.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am absolutely against this and anything that reduces support and face to face teaching of the curriculum within the classroom. Schools and children's education should not be penalised by the council's need to cut costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You cannot take any current provisions away from support staff within schools particularly for additional needs children. The services are currently stretched to capacity to take more away would mean catastrophic results for children, parents and the staff that are already in place. It is absolutely disgusting this is even being considered. If there's money for talking bins then there's money for schools. Children have the right to a safe and nurturing education. To take away current provisions would seriously impact that, this includes the child with the additional needs and the rest of the children in the class.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In primary schools, admin staff are extremely limited already and are a huge resource to the schools. In both of these areas, the reduction of wages will be minimal considering they are amongst the lowest paid in the schools so in order to save the amount estimated there will be a huge amount of job losses which will force people into claiming benefits, debt, homelessness and so many other major issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is already a limited number of pupil support staff in schools and reducing them further would be of absolutely no benefit to our children and their educational needs, never mind any other needs they will have. Quite often there are children who require a one to one staff member, largely due to the lack of provision for children with additional needs, this cannot be removed for the safety of individual children and the other children in the school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing support staff would have a negative impact of pupil attainment. Reduction to admin staff would also be of concern as this is another essential role in the school community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It's amazing how this is worded to avoid basically saying "we plan to replace appropriately qualified members of staff with a Youtube video." It seems to me the council is willing to sacrifice the quality of learning and support provided to children in this case. I would oppose any such move.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is not enough additional resource in schools for additional support needs, therefore a suggestion that there will be changes with a potential reduction to this number is very concerning. More information is required to determine what a review of third party provision means. I run a business providing primary school aged children with after school and weekend clubs, if there was opportunity to work within school time this would allow more children to access this extra curricular activity if the council were funding this instead of parents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	the schools need the admin support and support for kids that struggle	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children would suffer. In the long run if the child's education was to be affected due to not having the support needed. They may end up in later life not being able to hold down a job.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All children would be affected by this cut them that need support and them that don't. Also the Teachers need the help to support these children to allow them to do the job. More pressure on the teacher the less that Teacher can give to each student.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already underfunded?? Education can't be diluted any more than it is?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology can't deliver the personal touch and learning from a teacher surely? If a child can't read or write how does more technology help?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have a child who has dyslexia, without this additional support he would struggle massively. Children who rely heavily on additional support need to be taken into consideration as this could cause major issues for them moving forward if this was taken away.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think that private nurseries should actually be offered more in support for children with additional support needs and have a budget set for them additionally to have staff that can support their children. It is vital and important that children can gain the support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think children with additional support needs do need the additional resources and adult interactions especially with pupil support workers in schools, and additional adult staff that can help them through out their day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I cannot comprehend how you think it is possible to cut any more funding for schools. We are already operating with far too few staff members and not enough resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a teacher, I regularly have to buy provisions for my classroom and rarely have the support required from other staff to ensure that all of the children in my classroom have access to the level of education to which they are entitled. If this is cut further, it will be devastating for many children, particularly those who require additional support to access the curriculum, of whom there are many.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are tight and the whole system needs to be re-evaluated however, cutting things back from education would not have the desired effect. West Lothian is a poor area and needs to be able to support the children better not just in education but before and after school support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Making any cuts would cause a huge detrimental affect to our education system. If anything, we want to get these children to the best they can be, be able to socially survive in the real world, but also be able to hold down a job. In turn this should help making savings for the councils budget if we cut down on the amount of people who aren't working and claiming benefits. Teachers and PSWs are at the forefront of making this happen and ensuring that these children are leaving confident with a true understanding of what they have learnt.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are struggling as it is so what will the effect of this be? It's hard enough to come out of school and get the job you want so we really need to be ensuring that the right resources are ploughed into primary schools as an early intervention in order to ensure we are giving every child the best start in life. Pupil support workers are a KEY part of the school, sometimes doing nearly just as much as the teachers in some areas of the school. Teachers and PSWs don't have enough time to do what is required at the moment to be the best they can.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Where to start? - I'm just glad I no longer have children at school! This will be another round of cutting funding from those that dare call out the naked emperors; and diverting funding to whoever is the trendy box-ticking flavour of the month.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The removal of this funding would have a severe detrimental impact on the children. It is currently very challenging to ensure the curriculum is delivered within the current school day, removal of funding for staff, resources etc. would only be disastrous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are struggling as it is. Students are not getting a stable learning environment due to lack of teachers. Add in the gaps from using technology. For example students used lpads at school but at home may only have access to android. Furthermore my child's school going away fro teams back to written homework as lack of student ownership. All being left to parents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I hope people do realize how much, effort and human interactions are inevitable for extra support for pupils. Please don't replace too many things, human interactions with technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need more ASN workers in schools not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School budgets are also under attack. In over twenty years of teaching I have never known money to be so tight in the school and have never spent so much of my own money to make sure that my class have the books, materials and resources they require to enjoy an education not done on a shoestring.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The policy of closing Special Needs Schools and inclusion means PSWs are needed now more than ever, for whilst inclusion to mainstream schools is a valuable thing, the support needs to be in place for these children to succeed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	There has been no closure of Additional support needs schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already suffering from previous cost cutting measures. Support and administrative staff are stretched thin as it is and to cut them further would be of severe detriment to education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I disagree with any reduction in budgets to schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	West Lothian Council does not have a good representation of early years support for children with additional support needs mainly autism. The small amount of support given to these children should not be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We must be very careful to provide the best schooling for our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This seems like a very high value to be taking away from education. It's seems unrealistically high to find efficiencies of that value without major reductions in services and resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Very wary of the phrase 'greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum' - what does this actually mean?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools already finding meeting the needs very difficult with the rise in presumption of mainstream, reduction in budgets, staff absences / inability to cover posts, increasing workloads and demands of the job (more added and nothing removed).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is it wise to have a situation where 3rd party provision is countenanced within such an important area of WLC's remit?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology currently in use is impacted by lack of internet, faults are not dealt with, a lot of time wasted on the phone before and after class time trying to speak to someone to deal with a problem. Resources are not shared with equity as there is no consideration for families who are forced to rent in medium to high areas but have low incomes. Extra resources are only given to those in poorer areas who may actually be well paid and enjoy living in those areas. Reduction in resources for any school is of great concern if we wish to maintain the quality of education. Some new schools have huge budgets whilst others have little or no money to maintain (never mind) upgrade the building.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The use of technology to deliver services in school worked for many during lockdown.; However, it was not suitable for all and that means that it is not in line with GIRFEC. There are a great number of young people who are unable to or unwilling to access technology for learning and need in person support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staffing in schools is already under pressure with reduction in teachers and pupil support staff. Teachers are already stretched to the limit without removing more support staff and if administrative staff was reduced, who would complete the necessary work! The attainment gap will never be reduced if teaching and support is reduced. Education is supposed to be the Scottish Government's top priority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School resources, including pupil support, need INCREASED and not reduced (by £5 million. The First Minister said Education was her top priority . Holyrood needs to provide more money for Education or confirm Education is no longer a priority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	not sure what this will look like - but west Lothians provision for those requiring additional support needs is one of the poorest in Scotland therefore I do not agree with this as it can only make poor performance in this area poorer. however it would good to understand the detail behind this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Important service for future generations should be retained as much as possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Better if schools decide	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Schools /Headteachers will be consulted
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	My child attends St John ogilvie rc primary in deans, Livingston. He was diagnosed with autism 2 years ago but has needed extra support since starting nursery at 3 years old. My other child also requires additional support to help regulate his emotions. Reducing support staff in schools will greatly affect children like my sons, who rely on them just to make it through the day. Teachers also rely on them to meet the needs of those with challenges, so they can continue to meet the needs of the rest of the class. Reducing support staff will ultimately affect everyone negatively.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We cannot reduce PSW allocation at the same time as increasing the number of pupils with additional support needs. We need to support our learners and have the capacity and resource to do so. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	PSWs are an essential part of the teaching team. They deliver individualised interventions to support class teachers to raise attainment. Reducing the number of PSWs will inevitably have a detrimental effect on closing the attainment gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We have gone through two periods of remote learning where we have used school technology resources to ensure the continuity of education and the funding has never been there to plug the gap of the resources lost during that period.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You mention that there should be greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum. How can this be achieved when the Capital Enhancement fund only provides enough points to fund one classroom of technology for a Secondary School. The inconsistency of technology between West Calder and Winchburgh is vast and unequitable, yet you continue to plough money into these new flagship schools and ignore the needs of the remaining.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is not enough support in schools at present to support pupils with additional needs, which is having a detrimental effect on pupils, GIRFEC should be paramount when looking at education. Technology is a good resource but the use of it during COVID demonstrated that pupils do not always engage with it, what will be in place to support pupils who don't engage or can't afford the technology. I am aware of pupils, who during covid, were meant to receive laptops to support them to access online lessons which never happened.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am very concerned about the possible reduction of pupil support within schools. There are currently lower levels in school than previously and there is without a doubt a higher number of pupils with additional support needs in schools either emotionally or learning. Covid has had a huge impact on all pupils not just those in the lower quintiles where spending has been focussed to close the gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am concerned to see such drastic cuts to resources in schools. Schools are already coping with less than optimal staffing across admin, pupil support and teaching, reducing this further will have significant impact on pupil's welfare and learning. School are being required to do more and more to support and educate children whilst resources are being withdrawn. The school system is already near breaking point and further reductions will only accelerate this. Children's education that has already been greatly affected by the Covid pandemic will suffer further with a long term impact on the economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not clear what the impact is on support for children with additional needs as a result of "utilising resources provided to deliver additional support in schools for core staffing requirements." Are you actually proposing to reduce the provision of support for children with additional support needs? Considering that Councils have an obligation to provide this type of support is this not just the erosion of a key service for a group of children for whom the Council have a clear responsibility to support? Will this proposal not make GIRFEC more difficult to implement within schools by reducing availability of support staff?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How does delivering curriculum through technology help anyone, particularly children and young people with additional needs. I feel this will lead to standards and grades dropping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option. More teachers with smaller class sizes and an update to the councils dating school stock is required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Absolutely not.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You CANNOT punish children and their education opportunities because 'us' i.e. adults failed to control spending and maintain growth in the area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is already completely unequal and we feel that throughout the country with a lack of talent development. Children must be given a fair shot at a future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil / staff ratios should not be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School funding is woefully inadequate and moving to digital platforms decreases learning effectiveness.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Our education system must be protected at all costs. Any savings from education must not come from reducing staff or their contact hours as those already do not meet the needs of the most vulnerable students. The best way to find savings in this area would be to review how the procurement process works and allow school greater freedom in how they purchase supplies and services to ensure the best value for money can be found rather than being forced to use a limited list of suppliers who artificially inflate their prices for schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a family we have become victims of overstretched and under funded additional needs support both in mainstream and special provision. This is having a long term effect on my children and thwir future. Please do not put any more children in any more danger than they are already in by trying to save such a huge amount of money on education. It is vital that we educate children in a safe and appropriately equipped environment. It is also essential to retain and support the education workforce appropriately in order that they can provide pur children with the education that they deserve.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is the last thing we need - more change and undermining of school resources. Having a son who works in secondary education, it is concerning where all these machinations will end.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technology, read the Case Studies please, does not per se improve teaching. Feedback on the provision of iPads to all pupils during Covid is not good. How many pupils learn by looking at a screen, reading a script and gaining a useful depth of knowledge? Generally, only those that are already above average pupils might get some help from it. That's the question you need to ask yourselves. It is the teacher's ability in front of the class that drives attainment. If you have a good teacher, then the class performs better. Real life handling of chemicals and the like in a safe environment build learning and depth of knowledge, not videos of the same event. And let's not forget, make class learning interesting, not just another video to be forgotten in 30 minutes. I'm sure that there are some resources that are not delivering in our schools but, again, if you keep cutting away the depth of knowledge and support then you will probably find that attainment levels fall & social issues etc will continue to increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Review the management structure in all individual schools and centralise where possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Management structures in schools will be reviewed.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staff and teaching in schools should be ring-fenced. This is hugely important for ongoing outcomes	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	After a decade of austerity and the implementation of the presumption of mainstream for pupils with additional needs there is not the extra staff to be able to cut support in mainstream or addition support needs provisions. Teachers and Support Workers in particular are already stretched too thin. Cutting in this area will directly harm the lives of young vulnerable pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need all the staff and resources they can get. Please do not cut school funding!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ask the teachers and pupil support staff what they need most and they will direct you better than any third party	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am not sure about the greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum. I have grandchildren and I have lots of friends with children. During Covid most lessons were delivered online and this is where some children fell behind. I know this is the age of technology but children also need interaction with their teacher in person.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	schools are short staffed enough puples with mental and learning difficulties that need support cant get any and the teachers are struggling to keep up and support these pupils whilst teaching a full class.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	you should not ever think of cutting education budgets. these should be ring fenced and expanded to make sure all puples in all schools have the same opportunities. i know for a fact kids in bathgate for example are falling behid cause the teachers are told no when they ask for anything like art supplies or computers so jids can do music tech. you should be supporting these school not cutting them off at the knees	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools should be protected as much as possible, what do other council areas in Scotland do differently? Is there a best practice example you could use or review. My experiences of third party consultants is that they will tell you what you want to hear, charge a lot of money for reviewing and leave you to it, working or not.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would hope these changes would not have any negative impact on key resources and services which benefit pupils, such as the Inclusion services and those that provide specialist support to schools. We have already seen other services squeezed over the years and again this is going to have a negative impact on pupils. The have a right for their needs to be met and this needs to be taken into account at all times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Most children already access technology too much at home- putting them behind a screen to learn is not the answer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools and teachers are already struggling with the expectations put upon them and the time frame on which they are to achieve their targets. Further reducing teaching support would impact negatively on children's curriculum development and work achieved in schools.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds like you want to damage future generations to save pound now. Schools need more pupil support staff. They need more resources. They need more support from the building owners in ensuring the environment is tight for each young person.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Totally agree all children should be taught digital who needs pen and paper or teachers for that?!; That was sarcasm not sure this form would pick that up!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	That sounds to me like you want to cut staffing within the school which is completely wrong. The schools need more staff, not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The priority for the council needs to be to ensure that future generations are supported to be able to engage in the economy in the future. Cutting the budgets which support some of the most vulnerable, especially at a time when the health and mental health of these young people is at the lowest. Technology I agree with, however not at detriment to those who need support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements - pupil support staff are already some of the most overworked staff in schools. Any further reductions in this area will have a detrimental effect on pupils wellbeing, mental health, attendance and achievement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This may include utilising resources provided to deliver additional support in schools for core staffing requirements - does this mean the outreach teaching service being taken away? This would have a negative impact on the educational experience for hundreds of pupils across the authority and may lead to a greater cost in the long run as specialist placements are sought for a larger number of pupils. This does not make sense to me.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools should not receive cuts to pupil support staffing - schools are already on their knees offering support to pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need all the staff and funding they can get. DO NOT TAKE ANY AWAY.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I agree that a more robust service is required however I feel that more money is required for staffing and resources rather than making savings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sorry, did that just say were giving schools £5 million LESS? Surely I misunderstand. I can't imagine a country where we are developed enough to understand that educating our children is the only way for society to progress and flourish, then cutting the funding to educate their youngsters. I'm sure I've misunderstood this, because reducing any education budget is idiotic.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think with the current climate teaching staff benefit from the support of both additional support staff and pupil support to keep their classes in check as their are no deterrents to misbehaving in class hence without support disrupts the full class.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have a daughter with additional needs and her infrastructure was in place since she was placed in the education system for extra help. I can see a dramatic decline in this service despite being promised additional help throughout her school life. The school couldn't even provide a subscriber for one of her exams resulting in her failing the subject, this is her future that is at stake and surely this needs to be addressed without more cut backs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What does 'utilising resources provided to deliver additional support staffing' mean? Is this a cut in teacher allocation for pupils who need support? What is the model for the 3rd party provider to meet these needs. Worry 'staff training' is deemed a replacement for face to face support for learners by a teacher	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Shocking that, especially after COVID and the associated mental health issues and widening of attainment gaps, resources for children's education, particularly Staffing, are set to be reduced by WLC..Increasing children's digital exposure and reducing their access to qualified and devoted human employees at a time when behaviour issues,mental health problems and attainment gaps have risen sharply in order to save money would represent a significant failing on the Council's part.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Does this mean less teachers? Our young people are the future and education is vital.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	5 million pounds of education cuts is frankly unacceptable. Pupil support and administrative support are already cut to the bone and running at extremely low staffing levels. This has a tangible knock on effect on schools abilities to support young people particularly those who need the most support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Given the state of our education system in this country and the hugely detrimental effect covid has had on our young people and seeing first hand as a parent of 2 children who attend schools in West Lothian I don't think you should be looking to make savings in this area. It's already grossly under funded and teachers are stretched to breaking point. Given the council does not provide enough care for additional support need children in specialist schools and the wait list for additional special needs diagnosis and support are through the roof, even suggesting to make savings to additional support staff funding and resources in mainstream schools just shows the complete lack of care an understanding from this woeful council! Furthermore wording your detail in such a way where it's not at all clear the exact impact to the reader and asking that reader to comment is to me another failing and one that feels designed to provide little clarity to the reader on the hope they won't click on to what's actually being suggested.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Primary schools can barely operate at present - what will it be like with a reduction of vital staff?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are in a world where our special schools have been greatly reduced and therefore more and more children with special needs are entering the mainstream system. With support staff at present it is virtually impossible to offer high quality education because of the challenging behaviour these children display in Primary schools e.g. assaulting teachers and other staff members, throwing chairs and other objects, trashing classrooms so much that the teacher has to remove the children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	There has been no reduction of Additional support needs schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools across West Lothian Council are already on their knees with budget cuts and how it impacts the school curriculum. The failed Inclusion policy and reduction in Pupil places for children with ASN has already had a detrimental impact on pupils in mainstream schools. Violent incidents across WLC are rising and pupils in many schools no longer feel safe in their classes due to these cuts as pupils with ASN needs are struggling to cope in the mainstream classroom. It is an absolute disgrace that budgets are to be further cut. Schools need more money not less. Early intervention is sadly a distant memory and this will having a lasting negative impact on children and young people in years to come.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is of great concern. Schools are not being allocated budgets fairly for the children. Some schools receive more funding than others due to their postcode, this is grossly unfair and potentially harmful for children's learning and experiences. Schools need the investment. Third party provision of IT can also be concerning depending on the support model and SLA.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School resources MUST NOT be cut, you have cut them so much already that you are destroying childrens education. If anything you should be adding £5 million to school resources not take it away. WLC is already a disgrace of a council, do not make it any harder for our children than it already is just now.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already on their knees and not able to provide all required support services. Cutting funding & resources is outrageous. Our children deserve better than what's being provided. They are the future and are worth better investment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil Support Workers are essential in ensuring learners reach their potential, not just academically but through supporting Health & Wellbeing and social inclusion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Interesting that these amendments will create a significant saving. All in favour of the savings, but not at the expense of the quality of education offered within west lothian schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So this means kids that have disables get left behind like always, they need the help & support, nice	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Struggling already with basic resources like paper and pencils.; Staff shortages esp PSW's to support pupils. Increase of identified pupils with additional needs but no staff or resources supplied; You cannot provide a more efficient service with cut backs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Absolutely ridiculous. Schools are on their knees fighting against budgets and children are not getting the care and education they deserve due to staffing. More special and inclusion schools need to be re opened as ASN children are greatly suffering in mainstream settings due to there being no places in specialist provision (tiny intake each year is ridiculous). The curriculum is already overcrowded without reducing staffing numbers further. Teachers need more time out of class to ensure planning and resourcing meets the needs o f every child, as opposed to increasing workload and decreasing time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	From working in a special educational school, I see first hand the need for funding to support children with severe and complex needs. The best support is having enough staff to ensure children's needs are being met so they can access the curriculum effectively. Reducing the number of support staff would have a detrimental effect on the inclusion and achievement of pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As the council continues with the presumption of mainstream, the number of children requiring additional support in school is increasing. The most valuable resource to support pupils is more staff and so it is vital that pupil support workers are valued for the work they do in supporting the inclusion of pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum' what does this actually mean? Children do not learn effectively from staring at a computer screen they need experiences that support their unique developments. In addition speaking key interventions supported by psw in the early years (and beyond) is crucial to support children, help them develop independence and manage the teachers ever growing pupil cohort.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support time is essential to ensure progress of all pupils and provide support for children with additional needs. To reduce this time would not be appropriate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	That is a high saving, and again does this mean reducing the work force in schools. My daughter already missed out on particular experiences in her high school class due to staff shortages and it appears like you intend to remove more staff - this doesn't provide a better education for young people. And you can't constantly use technology as a way to save money, because it always means reducing actual people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Are you crazy? The staffing is already critical with absolutely no capacity to cope with even a 'Covid' isolation. Any staffing reduction, especially for more digital is negligent. Digital integration is already too much, allowing for gaps in teaching to be papered over with 'media' time. Digital learning has its place- of course. However it is already causing problems with 'end' learning and needs to be halted. The education hierarchy that sit in Livingston are not in touch with the actual classroom crisis. They are not ensuring that staffing ratios are adhered to in accordance with government policy- this is especially true for the number of support staff required in a class- I guarantee this is overlooked yet this consultation recommends 'saving £5 million'- NEGLIGENT and shameful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We have failing schools caused by what? Poor management lack of core skills and not enough money being spent for the good of pupils. Look at the statistics West Lothian stop hiding. Years of playing around with curriculum, integration without support. Wake up	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is the one place that should not be cut. Good schools not only provide a future for all children but are safe secure places for some of our most vulnerable children. This should not be jeopardised and any cuts to this would be a failure of both central government and the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All schools needs vary and can be subject to change at various points throughout the academic year. I would be concerned about the significant impact this could have on teachers, pupils, parents etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is a terrible idea and would seriously be detrimental to the children of West Lothian. School staff are already unable to provide for all children who have ASN and taking away support staff is a sure way of making inclusion fail more than it already doing. There is other ways that the council could save money in schools such as allowing schools to order things not using PECOS which is already the most expensive way for schools to acquire what they need. Removing staffing will not only affect ASN children but all children in school who need any kind of support or who have anxiety. Children are already suffering due to the effects of covid and this will be even more detrimental to their learning and well being. I am disgusted that the council think this is an option. They are taking away from the future of our children and this will have serious implications for both children and staff. Disgusted this is a suggestion. Shame on you West Lothian council	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a teacher in WLC I want more detailed information regarding these proposed changes. In stating that there will be 'greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum' this raises concerns around pupil engagement and access to technologies. Is this to be delivered in school or at home? Creating resources and delivering learning via technologies requires teacher planning time - how is this being accounted for? Where pupil support staffing has been mentioned, what will this mean? Schools have significant numbers of children with additional support needs which is becoming increasingly more challenging. Having worked in a school that has greatly benefited from additional staffing to help raise attainment I worry what impact reduced staffing will have on attainment and the well-being of staff and pupils in schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support for special needs children is already lacking within the schools with limited funding. In not sure how or why third party providers will be any better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Educational support should be provided and taught by qualified and/or specially trained teachers. Children's education should not be put at risk by losing teacher contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff in schools already at a minimum, online courses are not effective for most vulnerable young people, and this will lead to an increase in the attainment gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The ICT / digital provision in schools for pupils in the secondary school phase is appalling to the stage that it is detrimental to the learning progress of some pupils (and in my view goes against the legal standards set by GIRFEC).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is shocking that such a significant area of savings is being cut from the education sector (from which there have been cutbacks after cutbacks for nearly a decade). Additional support provision in secondary schools is already scant so to cut it further would be tantamount to practically removing it altogether. I am concerned at your phrase "third party provider". Public Private Partnerships have shown that, in the long term, this is certainly not value for money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In terms of schools, the proposed 'restructuring' will have a huge impact on learners, teachers well being and work load and the jobs of teachers fulfilling the roles you wish to stop. This is a huge mistake and slap in the face to every teacher in the profession.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sorry, but our schools are not delivering. cutting £5 million from this is just going to make it worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As an employee that works in education I feel that schools are already in an untenable situation without the threat of reducing staff numbers. Class sizes are large, additional support is minimal and children who are vulnerable or have challenging behaviour are not getting the support they require to be able to fully access the curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In regard to this statement within a school, I do not see how using digital technologies to support children and reducing staff numbers can work. Covid had a huge impact which we are only just beginning to reverse within the school. There is a huge amount of work to be done to support pupils to get to where they should be within their learning but also mentally, emotionally and socially.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If the council is proposing to replace GTCS registered teachers with non GTCS registered staff then they will be failing this generation and future generations. Children are already suffering from the effects of Covid which will prove to be long lasting if they are not supported correctly. In addition to this the children will be missing out on quality teaching experiences which are integral to their development. Alongside this there would be a requirement to condense the curriculum even further to fit it into the remaining time which does a disservice to the national curriculum, the children and the staff trying to deliver the teaching. It is atrocious that a council is willing to put our children's future at risk with these proposals!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Funding allocations for schools should be done on a needs basis. Not all schools are on an equal playing field and it is evident that some schools receive very little support, due to poverty, from parents. WLC should help support these schools - true equity! Education is a right and the same standards should apply across the board. If a school is large they have more spend on a shared resource - upgrading play. Does this mean children in smaller schools should not have the same equipment. Central purchasing - if one school gets it - all school should also be entitled to it. There are a number of schools that are not fit for a 21st century style of education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The Scottish education system is broken. For a variety of reasons, mostly political (and down to a decade of austerity with another decade of it to look forward to, and a curriculum implemented shortly after the first recession now described as 'not fit for purpose...'). We are already running our department on fumes. There is no money to be spent on books (I am an English teacher) and we routinely run of basics like jotters. Thanks to covid and West Lothian's failed insistence on using technology to solve problems (it didn't work during lockdown; it's not working now we are back to face to face teaching), pupils are struggling to cope with everything from exams, basic numeracy and literacy, and organisational skills. There isn't much WL can do about the curriculum but we have to acknowledge that the system is already on it's knees, staff are broken, pupils are miserable and, despite what results might suggest, not as skilled as their qualifications might suggest, and that any further reductions will only makes this worse. In my ninth year of teaching, it has become increasingly apparent how much more able foreign students who come to our school are than the ones taught here - in everything from literacy, technical accuracy, organisation, confidence... In my current S3, a pupil who spent most of S1 and S2 under lockdown and covid-related disruption, is writing, at age 13, at a level more sophisticated than any of our Advanced Highers. She spent her entire primary years abroad and has really received very little input from Scottish education. The Norwegian exchange students, reading, talking and writing in their fourth language (!), outperformed our own students in every way. Even our current Ukranian students, many of whom have yet to grasp the basics of English and are using translation apps to access learning, are more focussed, determined, and thoughtful, better organised and more responsible, than many of our pupils. Why is that? And how on earth can this possibly be improved with the thought of even further cuts? What can actually be cut and what are we setting ourselves up for in the future? Each day of teaching requires a massive effort to overcome the feeling of futility, knowing that regardless of how much I do and how hard I try, these pupils are being failed by the system and that there is nothing I can do about it. The sole purpose of schools, the building and all the people in it, is to help these pupils prepare for the rest of their lives.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Our eldest child is in primary 1. I note from her homework assignments she is to use a computer, laptop or tablet device. Whilst we are able to provide this I assume the WLC needs to offer it, at the taxpayer's expense, to families who cannot afford one. I have no objection to this, however it would be reasonable to suggest as such a young age homework that was less expensive to adopt could be utilised. Furthermore what impact does the use of technology have on writing skills for example.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is unclear what this means however 'changes made in the allocation of resources to schools' is concerning. Please do not take any money away from schools. The potential £5 million it 'saves' now will not save money in the future if the quality of the education and the schooling experience. This would directly impact our young people and their future. I urge you to invest rather than save on our young peoples education and future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any changes here that save money means less support for children in school. There is already poor support in schools for children as it is especially in secondary education and particularly around mental health. Teenagers are suffering the worst mental health in a long time, possibly ever, off the back of covid. Making more use of technology and making changes to support staff will be detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	These cuts would have a significant impact on schools and children's prospects. Schools are already struggling with the current budget constraints and need additional funding not cuts. These measure will reduce attainment and social wellbeing and increase the attainment gap. Lockdown proved that time in school with teachers is more successful than digital learning. Administration and pupil support workers are vital to the effective running of schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What the hell are 3rd party providers getting involved with schools. Too many government agencies pay out to 3rd party providers...dilution of duty, dilution of safety.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Budgets in school are already strained and schools have a lack of resources already that cannot cope with the burden of the curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Face to face teaching is vital. Many learners do not cope learning virtually and some cannot access the technology needed to fully engage in lessons.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't agree on greater use of technology to rely on educating and providing curriculum to children. It's just going to encourage more isolation, less discipline and poor social skills and I think we have all had a taste of how bad that is long term on the children based on lockdown. I highly doubt we will be raising scotlands brightest pupils and successful adults from West Lothian if this is the sort of cuts that are going to be happening going forward.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I object to savings being made through reducing staff while still having an expectation to deliver quality teaching and learning and raise attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are too many things on the curriculum at present and teachers dont have the time to teach children on how to use a computer. With conversations with friends with children at schools the parents always comment about the P.S.W's are hard pushed with noisy/disruptive pupils demanding their time. They cannot devote their time to the pupils whom they are employed to help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Everyone complained that this type of education did not work during the Covid lockdown, the use of See-saw and Teams caused more work for teachers to find appropriate copyright free material online (The need to fully watch Youtube video's before uploading);	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing staffing levels is completely unsafe. Education standards are going to continue to fall. Increasing technology is a huge mistake causing everyone to spend far too much time on front of screens etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	'Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum'? As a teacher in West Lothian for the past 20 years this about sums up the 'respect' with which education staff in the council are treated. At a time when there are more additional needs in schools than ever and the impact the policy of 'inclusion' is having on all, removing additional support is nothing short of madness. As far as funding goes, recent changes have meant every resource must be ordered through PECOS providers who almost always charge almost double the prices items could be purchased from elsewhere. Significant savings could be made here if this was not the case.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is extremely alarming! Schools are already struggling with huge class sizes, lots of pressure to ensure they are getting it right for every child! Resources and staff are already extremely limited without a £5 million cut! Children have missed so much already through lockdowns. I have no idea how staff will meet increasing demands and raise attainment with such huge cuts!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Do not support, education resources cannot be cut any further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The provision of high quality Education to our young people is paramount. These young people are the adults of the future and the people who will bring in money to the economy if they are prepared for working life. At the moment we are not meeting the needs of all of our children due to the large class sizes and the inclusion of children who require specialised/targeted support placed in mainstream schools. Their inclusion in effect causes exclusion of others in the class who are not benefiting from undisrupted quality learning and teaching. Cutting pupil support workers would make the situation even worse. We need smaller class sizes and adequate pupil support for us to truly meet the needs of all. Technology is a resource that is important and effective but is not the answer to filling education time not provided by the teacher. Not all pupils can access learning in this way. More money should be put into Education not taken away. School buildings need to be expanded to accommodate smaller classes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again education services must be protected and prioritised. Staffing must be optimal with a full range of subjects available to young people and additional support and early intervention continued.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In addition, I think you need to be much more transparent with your 'greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum'. What exactly does this mean? In a world where technology is eating aggressively into everything we do and having failed so many children during lockdowns what do you hope will be achieved? Details needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The education of our young people should be at the very core of what we do. After all they are our future generations who will inherit the world we have created/are creating for them. If you/we cut services such as pupil support and alter the curriculum to suit the agenda then the consequences are likely to be catastrophic. Scotland once had a world renowned education system. Now we seem intent on picking it apart. No longer are we up there with the best, rather we are scraping the barrel with half-baked ideas that will only harm our young people rather than help them. The details are far too complex for this opportunity but suffice it to say I will continue my discussions with our MSP and councilors who have been voted in to help achieve the very best outcomes for future generations.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What does 'utilising resources' actually mean for schools? I think these proposals are too vague and somehow staff and residents are to decipher what is meant! Greater use of technology to deliver curriculum- how is this going to be done? Again too vague. Does it mean reduced opportunities for pupils by reducing opportunities? This needs specific examples and explanations on how it will not impact on pupil opportunities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technologies to deliver curriculum has me concerned as a teacher. We have tried and tested video content delivering to pupils during lockdowns and online video seminars now back in school for visitor speakers- children do not engage nearly as well as face to face.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I recognise that the cuts have to be made everywhere, however, it is estimated that a third of pupils have additional support needs, and that figure is from before the pandemic during which some children's ability to learn has been significantly impacted. I would be concerned about the potential impact of such significant cuts to PSAs and the use of ASN resources to plug core budgets, particularly as teachers and school staff are already struggling to address the need in classes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No, no, no - schools have been cut to the bone with teachers and staff stretched to the maximum throughout the last few years. There should be less use of technology to deliver the curriculum, children need core face to face teaching time not multiple online resources that they have to plough through themselves.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education should always be a priority and making sure savings NEVER efforts our children's Education for the future within West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If the above is suggesting a reduction in the number of fte delivering education to our children then that is shocking, it is simply not possible to maintain quality provision of learning - there are already many who believe there are not enough teachers and additional support providers in our schools to meet the ever increasing needs of our children. Let's also not forget that we are only beginning to understand the impact of covid on our young people. They need more support in school, more time in school, more quality experiences inside and outside of school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Allowing more technology curriculum delivery should be a priority for the council. Any changes which lead to staff reduction whether teaching, admin or pupil support will lead to a negative impact on pupil learning and achievement and should be avoided at all costs. We already have a depleted workforce who work incredibly hard to meet pupils' needs, to reduce staff further will only hurt our pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No idea what is meant by "a greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum". Nothing will ever beat quality lessons and human interaction. Technology should be used to support the delivery of lessons, it can never deliver them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The support in schools currently is not nearly good enough to meet the demands/needs of the children. With a distinct lack of special needs provision it is getting more and more difficult to get it right for every child. We need more support not less or we will be failing the next generation. Inclusion seems to be a term banded around that means teachers need to try to support increasing needs and behavioural issues whilst trying to raise attainment. It is not manageable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Do not agree with this paragraph. Additional support is already under severe pressure. You are failing the most vulnerable in society. Third party providers will cost more money and provide a poorer service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support budget needs to be upped to keep them in the schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is all very well saying use more digital, but internet speed is very poor and some devices are very old. Cutting staff at a time where children missed out on face to face teaching will be detrimental to attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School my children attend have no resources, so this isn't a good idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already struggling with limited budgets. More support in terms of pupil support workers is required in every school. With the presumption of mainstream, there is now such a diverse range of children with additional support needs within every school. Class teachers are struggling to cope with the demands of these needs in the classroom and cutting pupil support workers further will lead to class teachers leaving the profession. It is unmanageable now in classrooms, never mind extra budget cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education services should be protected as much as possible from cuts so that the continued recovery of pupil learning post covid can continue	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Less should be spent on pupil support services for behavioural issues. That is a social work issue and should come from the social work budge, and it would be more appropriate to place all of those children into specialist units where an economy of scale saving can be made rather than paying for individual teacher support persons for each individual unruly pupil. An increase in digital technology usage would be helpful to children, but I think money should be spent first on ensuring that children are receiving a decent standard of teaching in the basics before it is spent on gadgets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More responsibility on the class teacher for support and admin (above and beyond what is already being done) will result in a lesser quality of teaching.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More technology is needed for this to occur within schools and also outwith schooling. If learning is to continue from home then technology is needed at home also. Schools do not need a drop in pupil support or admin staff. Pupils are struggling and still catching up with problems due to covid. If there are less staff members to achieve these same goals then students will suffer. More responsibility on the class teacher for support and admin (above and beyond what is already being done) will result in a lesser quality of teaching.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	needs more teachers not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The Business Support Manager is a vital resource for all school managers to support and manage their devolved school budget. I would have serious concerns if the Business Support Mangers were cut further and would become an additional work load issue for senior leaders in schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't agree with cuts being made in this area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Computer screens instead of teachers!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Seems like you're sacking more workers here...?!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So cutting costs in education will benefit who	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Probably not such a good idea .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	less teachers more pupils	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Totally against	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	not interested	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not happy with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not agree with these plans.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	DONT NEED ANY CUTBACKS.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	additional support for pupils is obviously a key core staffing element within all schools and I would expect is allocated based on individual and school needs. However, this shouldnt be done at a detriment to other pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology to deliver the curriculum can be positive if it provides the skills required when progressing to both work and university. For example self-study and review, or conference presentations etc. Will this mean that schools have less resources to be more innovative in their approach to education, placing a greater reliance on PTA and families to fund activities and learning materials etc?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools do not currently have enough resources to provide support for pupils in order to meet their needs at the current time, constantly balancing meeting pupil needs against available psw or teacher time. Cutting support provision either through reduction of pupil support workers or support teachers would have a direct impact on their learning and create an even bigger learning and attainment gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology is being utilised within schools to enhance learning however the network systems are not suitable to support an increase in pupil use and staff are constantly trying to develop their own technology skills to keep up with new developments. Many parents are also reluctant to increase pupil technology use at home either as they believe their children have too much screen time already or due to lack of resources at home Overall cutting any support provisions within schools would result in lower pupil attainment, reduction of quality learning experiences, a decrease in support for pupils with learning gaps, increased teaching staff unemployment and would not be beneficial in any way to pupils, parents or staff. Education should be one of the councils highest priorities - children are our future and without investing in their education we are not investing in a Scotland fit for the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You should not cut Education every school support staff is needed to help our children.As a parent of a child who had additional support needs his pupil support worker has been invaluable at helping him to progress pupil support workers and teaching staff are fantastic.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More funding needs to be allocated to improve west Lothian school facilities, good teachers and easy access to schools for parents such as car parks etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More resources in schools such as technology items for each child such as tablets or PCs rather than shared learning or take your own. Every child should be given the chance of getting a free equipment, not just the deprived.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I'm not sure how resources can but cut further in schools, I feel my childrens school is in need of resources and would like to see additional staff to support my child's learning not being cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Being a member of staff in a school the current level of allocation for school resources is insufficient. It does not meet the ever changing demands of the pupils in the classroom and is failing school pupils and staff. The purpose of Cfe is "getting it right for every child" which with the current level of allocation is nearing impossible without further reductions. In school we are having to cut course options for pupils reducing choice preventing some young people from obtaining qualifications in a particular field. We are not providing our young people with the correct level of support needed, in particular with regards to those children who experience ASD with current levels at an all time high and only expected to increase. There is an inability to retain teaching staff due to cuts, leading to increased pressures being placed on us in the classroom which are becoming unrealistic. We as teachers are going the extra mile to ensure pupils achieve success taking time out our own free time to help them achieve extra qualifications or have the ability to have a teacher face to face which they are not afforded by the option of the money saving digital academy. The expectation is on teachers to deliver a course and prep for this course in 2 x 50 minutes periods at some schools, for pupils that they will never have the opportunity to meet face to face, why are these pupils not being given the opportunity to learn these courses within their own school? Where they can get one to one support and feedback in real time?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More is needing spent on schools not less. St Kentigners has leaks in their roofs. Why isn't this sorted immediately before it ends up in a big job	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Issues with the roof at St Kent's currently being addressed.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please use plain English here - what does this actually mean? Does it mean schools must be self-funding for certain things? Isn't that just shifting the problem rather than solving it, since service users will pay one way or the other?; Schools are struggling as it is. Education should have increased investment, not decreased. Savings should be made elsewhere to accommodate ring-fenced education spending.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This appears to be a huge saving. What assurance do we have that numbers of pupil support workers will increase in line with need? Does "greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum" mean reduction in teaching staff levels?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am very concerned the implications this has for support for pupils, not only those with additional needs who are already underserved, but support for pupils in class. The pandemic has had a huge impact on children's learning and social skills. It is a crucial time to address these issues and more is needed to support children & staff in schools, not less!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not clear what you are proposing here but as far as I'm aware there are already so many children needing extra support in class and that are distributing others education with their challenging behaviour. If anything teachers and parents need extra support for this not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How can we truly GIRFEC I'd we do not have the critical resource of manpower that we need - support staff and additional teachers??? Agencies visit us and make suggestions, we cannot action these without bodies to do this. Children with ASN often require 1:1 support otherwise they or their peers suffer. Often staff are hurt as well.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Head teachers know their schools best and should be allowed to make decisions about how individual budgets are spent for their particular school. If these decisions are made elsewhere, it would be detrimental to pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Headteacher have responsibility for budgets and will be consulted on any changes.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools across West Lothian already have a shortage of PSW's who are vital in aiding to raise attainment in our schools. Further cuts of staff will have no benefit on the pupils or the teaching staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Lack of information given here!! Teachers already make good use of technology in delivering the curriculum- how would this save money? The mention of changes to pupil support staffing is extremely worrying. Pupil support workers are essential in schools and are already severely underpaid for the jobs they do. Reduction in this will have a huge detrimental effect on education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a teacher, I can unequivocally say this is incomprehensible and quite frankly dangerous. Pupil support is needed more than ever. The inclusion expectations in mainstream settings are unmanageable. Reducing pupil support will only negatively affect both learner's education and teaching staff will leave the profession. Furthermore, it is immoral to cut staff during a cost of living crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am extremely concerned to hear the council wishes to cut funding to education by £5 million. There has already been a huge impact on childrens' learning due to covid so education should be a priority. There is already a huge shortage of resources in schools, both in terms of physical resources and PSWs. With there being more educational needs in mainstream schools we need more skilled PSWs and resources, not the council taking away £5million pounds.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Think this is over ambitious given the current cost of living crisis where more children are likely to be in poverty. Their well-being is supported by being at school and this must not deteriorate due to cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I believe if we do not invest in education we are storing up even greater problems for the future. Children need support and high quality education, which is dependent on motivated , valued teachers and support staff. It might be better to have a narrower curriculum and do that well.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is unbelievable. The pupils in our schools do not get the support they need as it stands how can you determine that it can be withdrawn any more than it already has. There is not enough provision in West Lothian for pupils with special educational needs and the mainstreams schools have autistic and pupils with other difficulties who do not have the adult support needed. I cannot understand how you can possibly take any more money away from this than you already have.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools require an increase in pupil support workers not a reduction. This suggestion to save money is ridiculous. How can this possibly be suggested given the commitment made to support inclusion of children with Additional Support Needs (ASN)? Every class should have a pupil support worker to assist.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	'Tis is nowhere near specific enough out clear as to what exactly is going to happen and having 3rd party people involved is vey dangerous to the standards off education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil Support Workers in every school are the backbone of the education system. They are the ones dealing with the day to day problems in school/home and also helping children with their confidence to achieve greater things. Agile learning will not work without PSW's. It is hoped that you are not going to use third parties as a cheaper way of providing a service. After all PSW's are the poorest paid in the education system. Any trimming of staffing levels should start at the top as we seem to have excessive amount of higher management. Using technology for the curriculum shouldn't be a daily thing and again what happens when these systems fail. Pen and paper shouldn't be alien to children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I disagree with this. School need to best decide how to spend their own budgets sleep don't on individual needs of school. "Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum" sounds like you're trying to replace teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This measure is very ambiguous. I don't think additional support should be altered to save costs and I believe that children need their teachers much more than they need technology. I do not agree with this measure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Personally I feel there is too much emphasis on technology in schools and too much screen time for kids. My kids never bring books home anymore even though their school have a library which is a shame. Schools seem to be underfunded as it is so cutting funding isn't going to help.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing teachers will cause more harm than the good any savings could make. Parents will expect that their children receive the same amount of quality schooling that the rest of Scotland receive, delivered by qualified teachers. In an post pandemic era where the core areas of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing are of top priority along with quality teaching and learning experiences, giving children less time with qualified teachers will not allow for education recovery to continue. If anything, more qualified teachers are needed to support educational recovery, to target the attainment gap and the gaps created by a loss of schooling over the previous two years. Smaller class sizes, more additional support and an increase in non-class contact time are the only solutions to support high quality teaching and learning. Reducing the school day and pupil contact with qualified teachers would be detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Training electronically makes sense rather than at venues. However schools need more resources for ASN pupils and not a reduction. The amount of ASN pupils with high individual needs is increasing in mainstream school and impacts on whole classes so reducing this does not make sense since there are limited numbers for inclusion & wellbeing unit. Increase these provisions to help mainstream schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is actually a point where education requires greater funding, not less, and the children require even greater support otherwise the outcome for Scotland will be felt for decades to come.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am totally against any reduction in school budgets! I have first hand experience of how challenging it has been for the children and staff during Covid and although my children are of senior school age, it is very clear that it has had a detrimental impact on child across all school ages.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The fees to use school facilities for clubs and societies are already very high, would not like to see these groups targeted to raise funds and further exclude people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Many educational establishments across the authority do not have the resources required to support a move to even more of the curriculum being delivered digitally. I know of classes using laptops that will no longer hold a charge, struggle to connect to the internet and even have missing keys on the keyboards. Schools that do not get significant PEF money are already struggling to provide resources for pupils and are at a disadvantage to other establishments.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In short, schools cannot operate without pupil support staff (non-teachers) who build positive relationships with pupils and undertake tasks that are essential to the success of the young person.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is also an increasing number of ASD pupils in school who need bespoke packages of education to meet their needs. This requires schools to be creative and rely on pupil support workers to have a high level of training and skill to work with these young people in partnership with teachers, often in small groups or 1-2-1 support which the teacher cannot do with another 29 pupils in the class.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil needs are becoming more and more complex and schools are stretched at present. I am very fearful that any reduction in staff supporting pupils will have a detrimental impact on attendance as pupils will stop coming to school as they will not feel safe and supported. This will have a knock on effect on attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are seeing a huge increase in mental health in young people following COVID, cost of living crises, family break ups, social media influence etc and it is essential that pupil support staff continue to support these young people so that they are healthy enough and supported to access education. If children are not supported in school by pastoral support to manage their mental health, they will not be able to attain and go onto a positive destination with increased life chances.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Really important to ensure we have the learning support for children as massive gap in children moving up to high school age due to covid impact while at primary. We are already trying to proactively support our children with this but not all families are in this position. We need to get the fundamental basics instilled in our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have an autistic child that has been out of school for 18 months. The ability for my child's school to help is extremely limited while government and council processes continually put more and more demand on them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need to give more support to teachers and pilot support workers. Please listen to them as they know best what they need to do their job. All teachers and support are there for the good of the child and therefore know best. Start listening to them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Constantly devolving school resources will eventually lead to the reduction in quality of service, equipment, goods and food supply. Third party providers only care about the Pounds saved and not about delivery of quality education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need more money to give these children the education they need and deserve, or we need specialist units to support ASN children. Teachers being attacked, children being put in unsafe positions, and lessons being disrupted by children screaming should not be the expected norm and it will only get worse by removing funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This year has the highest number of additional needs we have ever seen, and without an adult available even in the corridor to come in when things are challenging, it provides a risk to the rest of the class. It is not sustainable at the moment, it is not safe at the moment, and everyone is struggling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are at a bare minimum and struggling to survive as is. The larger the school, the more worse the situation. Our school is currently trying to run all P1 classes and a nurture room with no PSW support as PSWs are timetabled to be with us, but constantly pulled away to cover 1:1 support, chase absconding children (with needs identified but no shift on specialist support), the personal care nappy changing of children with identified needs...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't want the schools budgets cut back. As a disabled person I find that younger generation with disabilities are being placed in a main stream school. This isn't acceptable. Not when the teacher had to spend hours with 1 student. I agree all children should socialise. Could a separate support room be made for kids with extra needs. Not shunning them. They just need more support and not distraction.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please please please don't force our children to live an online life.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This worries me. The children have already moved online to a large extent and need to build balanced lives. Moving education online too much may result in longer term impacts including poor mental and physical health. Likely to add cost back into to the system only in a different place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	ASN is continually understaffed and until the class sizes are reduced to 6 staff will continually leave, continue to be exhausted and more is already at an all-time low. Staff are never listened to at Authority level. ASN school are not fit for purpose and certainly not big enough. Try providing the correct learning environment first before you embark on yet another ludicrous proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a parent and teacher in West Lothian I am concerned about what these changes will be. Not enough clarity is given regarding the proposals. Agile learning was described as being embedded in all WL schools but this is untrue. How can our ASN pupils be supported fully in mainstream primary school with less Pupil Support Workers and Support for Learning staff. There is not enough digital technology in school at present. Please provide more clarity about what is planned.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Kids already struggle with basic reading and writing and the fact more support staff have gone into primary to help shows this to be true. The overuse of electronic devices doesn't help either. There is already a huge shortage of teachers and you want to make cuts again, I find this ridiculous and other areas would benefit losing funds than a child's education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Our schools are struggling enough already, they cannot take any more cuts! Our kids deserve much better state schooling than they currently get! The gap between state and independent schools is widening and it simply is not fair. It's not our kids fault the country is in tatters, but if we don't arm them with a decent education then how are they going to be the change that fixes this mess!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	My concern about this policy is that the levels of stress would increase, resulting in higher levels of stress and more absence as well as inevitable staff reductions leading to higher levels of stress in pupils furthering the need for a 'crisis response' instead of being able to put support in early to ensure that the crises are averted where possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are currently not coping as things stand. Staff are stretched to their limits and policies and cutbacks to support and staffing have resulted in many teachers being expected to do an impossible job with limited support. Early intervention is no longer early intervention as it is now seemingly a crisis response unit all the time due to schools being unable to manage those children who need extra support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If the provision by third party includes greater outsourcing, the service provision will inevitably be of a lower standard (witness what has happened in the Care sector giving outsourcing to private companies). As for increasing the use of technology, research has shown, very clearly, that less personal input from teachers and teaching assistants is detrimental to the learning process, encourages children to turn off, and perhaps lessens the attention span of individual children. Counter-intuitively, it might be more efficient to increase the personal input and lessen the technological input.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Clearly a need for investment in Education is required. As a parent of a S1 pupil, it is demoralising to understand that certain subjects that were previously statutory and core to the curriculum are no longer available due to a lack of resource or staffing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need every penny that can help us give out the best service so yes we do need the council support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is at bare minimum already. With a growing population of young people we should be adding more to the education budget. Especially ASN provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More money is needed within the ASN sector. Schools are struggling and they should not have to deal with budget cuts on an already struggling sector.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Being realistic about what schools are actually delivering. Too many teachers spend their own money and time on lesson plans and resources as what is available is severely lacking. For too long teachers have worked unpaid overtime to plan lessons. Teaching and education is treated too much like a vocation than a profession but it can be both but importantly with great pay and understanding for what the role actually entails. Permanent contracts instead of constant supply work would also create job security for teachers. Too many teachers are finishing their probation years without jobs whilst schools are understaffed. Support staff are also an absolute lifeline in schools and should be more valued and offered progression in their roles.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There urgently needs to be a review of the provision to avert a crisis within the next 2-3 years. Children are suffering in terms of education and well-being, and staff are burnt out, leading to absences due to ill health and people leaving the profession.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The criteria for staffing levels is no longer fit for purpose and a higher ratio is required for the safety of children and staff alike. + Mainstream education is forced to adapt without sufficient support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The numbers of ASN children entering education with significantly higher needs than previous cohorts has risen considerably. This has two negative impacts:	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Usually when you use third party service providers it costs more than doing it yourself. What milestones, performance measures are you using and going to share to justify outsourcing and demonstrate it is giving the same or better level of service?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I take it to mean: reduction in 3rd party provision. With the aim that you can maintain core staffing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I take it to mean: reduction in admin staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I take it to mean: - reduction in pupil support staffing levels - more online learning	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	My view: More use should be made of volunteers in the education sector. For example - small group tutorials or homework clubs, mentoring, fundraising (probably happens already), practical jobs eg fixing broken taps or painting the walls or whatever.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No This is madness	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No This is madness	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	DO NOT CUT FUNDS FOR SUPPORTING OUR CHILDREN	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Disagree. Do not cut funding to education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is very ambiguous and unclear. Tinkering with additional support for our most vulnerable children is cruel and leads to even worse outcomes for this group. Those with additional needs are already those with no or limited voice in the system and the proposal to take away essential support and redirect is scandalous. Outcomes for all will be poorer as a result of support being redirected. The poorest will achieve less due to less support and peers without needs will also achieve less due to increased challenges within mainstream class environments.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Disagree with this proposed action.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Completely against this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is a massive saving in an area that probably actually needs investment in time and manpower. It is good if technology can help deliver the curriculum but technology cannot deal with modern day problems pupils and workforce are facing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This process devalues and deskills staff currently working in the area, who are stretched to the max and the moment and are taking work home. Making staff feel valued and building capacity inhouse would be a better way of saving money and retaining staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This statement is not clear- as a SfL teacher in a school in WL, I am concerned as to what this means. We need more staff and more funding, not less. There are a huge number of children with ASN in our mainstream schools and we need adequate staffing and funding to meet their needs. This can not be done alone with one teacher with a class of 25-30 children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If this means that pupil support will be reduced, it is currently insufficient at the moment for the society we are currently living in. If this means pupil support staff will take on more work then this is not acceptable on the salary they currently on as they are not qualified to teach. Children deserve to be taught by qualified teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School staff and resources are stretched to their maximum at present and to reduce funding/resources/support staff could have a huge detrimental impact to learners and teachers and may result in a loss of valuable education staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is vital for many children who do not cope with the demands of modern schooling. We are failing our children in their education as it is and cuts in this area would be detrimental to their education , limit their opportunities and is therefore unacceptable , This is an essential area that is needed for those children from backgrounds where they are at a disadvantage in their home life .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think pupil/teacher interaction is important. not everything can be delivered via technology. ; We should not cut services in the education area. education is key to survival of every country. we need an educated population.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This concerns me. Schools are already struggling to support increased need and this has impacted the support my child receives in school. Digital will not be effective without an investment in the infrastraycture, such as wifi, to support this. Some authorities already have each pupil and teacher with a device (eg Edinburgh secondary pupils and staff all being issued iPads). Without these kind of developments WL risks being left behind and pupils disadvantaged further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is one area that should not see anything other than significant investment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party should not be used	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't think any funding should be removed from; Schools. There's a lot of catching up to be done due to covid. My son did a lot worst in his nat 5s than expected due to covid and lack of support. They need more funding not less. Any technology changes are welcome of course as kids love all this anyway	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again costing more outsourcing and costing more and less effective	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are running on empty children are our future stop cutting services you have already allowed ASN services to be run down in the name of savings	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Funds should not be cut from schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not agree with cutting staffing levels or to relying on digital learning - children are online too much already without staring at a screen for 1/2 the school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Most teachers feel overworked already cutting further help or getting outside help does not seem like a good solution to this issue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Absolutely disagree with third party providers as education is paramount and also any changes or reductions to Servies for core staffing cost or additional for additional support services. The educational attainment gap as hugely increased during the period of Covid and clearly supports that use of technology was not beneficial for the majority, yes to be used as a tool to assist teaching. Aware of the constraints of funding and i am sure there agree some budgetary cuts need to be achieved, but at what cost long term?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I wouldn't support a reduction in pupil support as classes are already large and children have various needs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Students may feel less safe of unknown non-teaching staff ; ; Could Open University options be pushed more by schools ; ; It feels like there has always been an issue of lack of school resources so looking at what would be the most efficient resources to invest in may be good but worried we will have less options in each school; ; Advanced Highers run at select schools or coordinated better seems to be a sensible move – less teachers needed ; ; ; Children will not be able to connect with 3rd party providers in same way they do with teachers s onot sure this is a good idea.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	no cuts to education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would be sceptical about the level of learning and standards a third party provider would be held to over a qualified teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This point is extremely concerning! Schools already have stretched budgets as it is and this would ultimately mean the loss of qualified teaching staff, which considering schools need more support, not less, leaves me very concerned as a parent. The loss of staff will mean bigger class sizes and less quality teaching time per child in each class as the teacher will have to share their time across more children or group children into less appropriate bigger groups to try to meet all children's needs! Rather than placing children in groups for their specific individual learning needs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Do not undermine the role of the teacher in the education sector.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already understaffed, by reducing staff further this will impact on children's education, pupils need more support staff not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children shouldn't suffer so you lot can save a few quid	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is about childrens education, educating children is THE most important issue we have, to cut services in ANY way is wrong ! Schools worked fine when I was younger, we didn;t have business managers, we did have janitors for every school, we had a good education back then and schools full of stock/supplies ! Cutting support staff is NOT an option, support staff are vital, I know this having been a support worker myself, we offer children FAR more than help with their education !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cutting staffing and pupil support in schools is a bad idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education should NOT be cut especially when with all the extra housing being built there actually need to be more schools, particularly another high school in Linlithgow (which often gets over-looked compared to other towns due to some misconception that everyone who lives here is rich!).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is NOT the way to make cuts. As an Open University tutor, whilst teaching online and using technology is great it is still not a replacement for face-2-face teaching or having specialised teachers. It is appalling that in West Lothian primary schools there are no music teachers (using Charanga is NOT a means to effectively teach music especially if teachers are not confident about music/have no music skills). No art teachers. No PE teachers. No drama teachers. The teachers you are currently employing are working with minimal help or support and pulling rabbits out of hats daily. I'm sure for what it would cost to employ more staff you'd save one what you are losing when staff go on sickness/resign etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	pupils works better if they got good relationship with their teachers, and that's only possible with more permanent posts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again you are out sourcing this. Is the council not got people or even the school themselves that could deal with this instead of outsourcing which could cost you more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Classroom assistance has been cut back already but the number of pupils with additional educational needs have increased in some classes. The pressure on teaching staff therefore increases and not acceptable.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The suggestion that there could be a reduction to pupil support staffing arrangements would impact badly on all pupils in a class. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I find even the suggestion that we should save money by cutting pupil support staff terrifying. As parents and teachers we rely on the education system to support our children and pupils. Stripping away pupil support will directly damage all of our children. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are stretched to the limit currently. A reduction in budget of £5 million would be catastrophic for education in West Lothian. A 4 day school week would be unacceptable to working parents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	education has suffered greatly in the past from cuts and the attainment gap in our schools is widening. cutting funding and pupil support services is only going to have a detrimental effect on the gap and increase it further. pupils with learning difficulties need additional support not less we should be prioritising increasing funding in schools not cutting it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This sounds like a way of cutting staff numbers right at the time when numbers should be increasing to improve the school experience for children. ; ; I cannot believe the council are even considering taking money out of the most vulnerable section of society and the one where investment is proven to be beneficial.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	VERY concerned about pupil support as due to the increase in anxiety and mental health issues that reducing pastoral support young people will be effected and tragedies will occur	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council has invested in counselling and mental health support services.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School budgets are already really stretched and teachers regularly use their own money to provide resources for the classroom. Particularly in ASN schools, the short staffing is very difficult to manage therefore if it is further cut this will have a detrimental effect on pupils in our care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is vital to support teachers and pupils across all schools and already the number within schools is too low. To support attainment more pupil support workers are needed, not less!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I disagree, schools funding is already at a point where it feels stretched/squeezed and this year already I feel that children's education has suffered already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We all have to be very careful on cutting school budgets as they are on their knees at this time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please don't take the support for learning out of primary schools, the deprived areas already have to compete with more engaged/supported schools for things like psychologists etc, removing support for learning directly accessible will detriment these areas further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing staffing who are able to form meaningful relationships with children, many of whom are high tariff, will surely lead to greater pressures on a system struggling to cope already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Very concerning to see such a significant reduction in spending on our young people proposed.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Changes to pupil support staffing levels would impact on service delivery for pupils to support interventions and raise attainment. If administrative staffing were cut it would increase time HT's spend on non teaching and learning related tasks.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is hugely concerning. If this means a reduction in management again this will also mean a reduction in the number of teachers and pupil support workers schools are given funding for. With the inclusion agenda and reduction in number of pupils with more complex additional support needs (beyond academic needs) being allocated pupils support hours already happening, this is having a detrimental effect on the ability of schools to support children who require support to help them with their attainment. I have no issue with children with more complex needs attending their mainstream school and, in many situations, this could be a great thing for that child and their community but it has to be done with the correct level of support for that child above and beyond the pupil support team that is already allocated to the school to support children with a variety of needs to ensure they reach their full potential. I dread to think what could happen if this is reduced even further. Safety of pupils and staff will be impacted, the attainment gap would almost certainly increase and the positive outcomes for children will be affected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are a very important part of the community, most are struggling to provide resources and support for the children they have within their schools. Pupil support workers are an essential job within a school both for the teachers and children, as many schools now support children with varied and complex needs within main stream settings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As West Lothian Council is committed to a presumption of mainstream for pupils, it is very concerning that there are to be changes to pupil support staffing arrangements. As more and more children are brought into mainstream schools, there is an even greater need for increased levels of support to ensure that inclusion is fair and equitable for all pupils and staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council is committed to meeting its statutory duty to meet the needs of every child.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools and children must be the focus as they are the future and deserve every chance in life to succeed. Thus, we must do everything we can to allocate schools enough resources. Schools should not be cut in any way. Funding should be increased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is key, staff should not be removed from schools, their budgets should be increased to help and nurture our young people to become the best they can be.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology doesn't deliver a curriculum, teachers do. Curriculum resources can be presented on digital platforms, but this does not help when someone simply needs a concept explained to them. Skilled teachers are a priceless resource.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff already cut to minimum in schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Completely disagree with using funds allocated to deliver additional support for core staffing requirements. The only instance that this would be acceptable would be that all staff are fully ASN trained and monitored to work within differentiated learning that is built around individual need and I don't think this could be done without complete educational reform (which I definitely think is required). Removing pupil support isn't a sustainable idea. We know that children and young people are experiencing more mental health and well-being issues than ever before and are less able to cope in the large classroom environment. What is needed is for Education to survive without significant third party providers is to work with learning resources including ABE, CLD and Active Schools and Community Sport to be better integrated within learning communities to allow for alternative support and provision that could help relieve pressure on core education services and help address the needs of targeted children and young people. However, there are certain areas where the council has to rely on specialist providers coming in and supporting children with the likes of bereavement, suicidal ideation and mental health counselling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There has to be more additional support in schools to support teachers who have children with additional needs in their class, also Primary One classes should have additional support in each class all the time. Teachers are so stressed with the demands placed upon them .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have to laugh at the thought that you do not think additional support is not already a core staff requirement! Every teacher I know already has around 1/3 of their class who need additional support for various reasons and we have to fill out several documents and forms to firstly give evidence of the child's needs, secondly what we are already putting in place, thirdly what support we require and then we often have to duplicate this each year for each child. ; I don't understand how technology will reduce costs, is that to replace teachers?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing money in education, just like health, will be a disaster and completely go against the whole PEF initiative. You want successful adults, you must put in the money as children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	PEF represents a significant addition, not a reduction, to school budgets,
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Devolved school resources are only deemed a positive if the schools have the structure and staff within them to manage all the responsibilities. It is fine cutting PSW and admin staff, but who is going to do the work ? Restructuring to save money is always a dangerous thing as it tends to be after the fact that the issues arise and there won't be anybody left to solve the problems.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Talking of third party providers for service provision also in the long run will not save money. Parents wouldn't be happy with a 3rd party in the classroom. What is to come out of teacher's timetable to accommodate this? The curriculum is as full as it is and to have a 3rd party in delivering lessons in the classroom is detrimental to the children's learning. What happens if the school can't find appropriate third parties to deliver curriculum in the classroom, have they to go without? It is not really closing the attainment gap or helping with equity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is absolutely absurd. To try and take away 5 million from an already squeezed education system is at best incompetence from the decision makers in West Lothian. Very little can be said to describe how stupid this actually is. What good is this to the young people in our community?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any reduction in school staff will hinder the students and if teachers have to do more admin then they will not have the time to teach properly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would be concerned about any reduction to administrative support in offices as the amount of work that has been delegated to schools to allow savings to be made centrally the last number of years has increased steadily and is unsustainable. To reduce staff would increase the likelihood of errors.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need admin and pupil support staff to run. Cutting these will only lead to more problems down the line. Have the people "at the coal face" been asked about the allocation of resources through this new method and whether it will actually work in practice. These models are developed by not actually asking the end user as to how impacts their way of working and if it does make life easier and save money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	DO NOT REDUCE STAFF NUMBERS IN SCHOOL. It was very clear during the lockdowns that many pupils did not engage in academic learning while removing teaching was undertaken. In addition, with the social services having cuts made to their budget and CAMHS having a massive increase in caseloads, school staff are finding their workload increasing rapidly. Cutting any staff numbers will have a massive impact on the young people in the authority and further widen the gap between those in the most and least deprived areas of our communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council remains committed to closing the poverty related attainment gap.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Core staffing requirements is very ambiguous in its term. Schools need a variety of staff in addition to teachers if they are to cope with the increasing number of children attending mainstream with complex needs that quite simply cannot be met in a class of 30. The ideology of education versus the reality of school funding needs to be meet better. ; Technology cannot teach a curriculum, it can hold and share information but it cannot fulfill the requirements of a person.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sorry I do not agree with third party involvement in schools. It leaves staff and pupils at the mercy of others. While this might seem like money saving initially it does not continue and loss of control is significant.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is worrying as schools seem to have no money as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I hope lessons have been learned of the positives and negatives of different methods of learning during Covid. The delays in achieving developmental milestones during that time must not be replicated to save money	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This sounds as though you are going to greatly reduce the quality of education for our young people this is unacceptable and short sighted -it will cost money longer term and have a negative impact on young lives and futures. All when these young folk have already had a poor educational experience due to the pandemic. This is awful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Terrible, we need support staff and teaching staff to help our kids, especially those who need additional support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education needs significant investment, not reduction. But also the allocation of additional funds to schools needs to be closely monitored, I removed my child from a school that had been allocated over £100k to support attainment due to being in a deprived area, the only investment of that money was a family liaison worker who called round to chase up book bags! A colossal waste of resource.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would prefer to see money allocated to staffing costs than to more technology. Our children's world is full of technology, person to person contact is essential for social skills and mental well being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again with the third parties, not always value for money. Everyone knows these companies think of a number and double it when the council are involved. Not value for money and more redundant people in West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How can we possibly GIRFEC if we do not have staffing in place that is essential to ensure we meet needs. Presumption of mainstream isn't correct for all. We need to resource this correctly to ensure success for our learners.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is already a lack of PSWs to support the increasing high level of need in our schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Need more details than this....£5 million is a MASSIVE amount of money and you're very vague on what the impact would be on our children. ; This looks like an ill thought out idea. 🙄	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The proposals for education savings are absolutely ludicrous. At a time when an overhaul of the education system is required along with SQA how can we ever achieve the vision if we lose 100 teachers, specialist provision and our children have less access to things that nurture their development. The proposals are also deliberately vague - do we actually understand what is being suggested?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This will not work, resources that should be readily available are already scarce in most schools and lack of Pupil Support workers is having a negative impact in most schools with more and more behaviour challenges impacting learning in most schools. Teachers cannot teach due to trying to deal with these outbursts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cutting support staff in school will massively impact not only the children who they support but increase the workload for core teaching staff. Our children deserve the maximum amount of support, both for those with recognised additional needs and those who are from more challenging backgrounds. We owe it to our children to give them the very best opportunities to succeed in whatever they aspire to do. This cannot be done if key support staff are removed from schools as well as removing physical resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support for ASN students is a vital part of education and key to helping teachers to support ALL students to access the curriculum and achieve their potential and both Primary and Secondary levels. Cutting ASN staff numbers will have a direct impact on this and is a backwards step for tge students in our communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing the amount of support provided in schools should not be an option. With the reduction in specialised schools we were promised more support in main stream schools. This has been depleted over time and schools are now struggling to manage excessive demands on staffing due to the support required for pupils who cannot manage in a mainstream setting. This is leading to us not Getting It Right For Every Child, far from it.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Due to constant funding cuts, the schools within West Lothian are facing a hard enough time as it is. Pupils are being thrown into schools where the support staff are not available to support them in class. Teachers have maximum class sizes of 33 with no support despite many additional support needs. A cut to any education service is a crime- the teacher and school staff are already on their knees and feeling undervalued! It should not be a case of cutting funding or devolving resources- this would only widen the already HUGE attainment gap between SIMD households, but it should be a case of how can more funding be issued!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I'm not sure how technology can 'cover the school day?' We all so in lockdown how the attainment gap grew!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School budgets need to be protected. Otherwise our most vulnerable children will be severely affected. Huge classes mean there is less time for each child and attainment will fall. PSWs could lose their jobs when they are so badly needed in schools. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Budget is now extremely tight in schools. Less budget would be detrimental to the children and resources are vital in delivering high quality education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Front line staffing in a schools must be protected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education should not suffer as a result of the council's budget shortfall.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The budget shortfall applies to education equally along with all other Council services.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The challenges in school are greater with more disruptive behaviour and therefore we need more investment in staffing not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements should be left alone, they are inadequate as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is already a lack of staffing relating to pupil support in schools where schools are struggling to have enough support in place for pupils in mainstream. The individual teachers in schools know what support is needed for their pupils not some third party division outside of the school which will be out of touch with what actually is going on inside a school. Majority of pupils struggled to access Teams at all during lockdown online learning and fell behind in their learning as a result. This was due to lack of funds to purchase equipment to access teams and or lack of access to WiFi. Why would we choose to put more pupils at risk of not being included and disadvantaged in their education because of their families economic background.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Basics in schools are already underfunded. Schools will fall into disrepair and pupils not be supplied either basics if further cutbacks are implemented	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support workers need to be retained in classrooms to provide equity for pupils with additional support needs. The number of PSWs in classes has already fallen significantly and there are more ASN pupils than ever in mainstream schooling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is key to addressing the needs of today's children and the increasing demands of inclusive education. Will the Devolved School Management funding be able to respond adequately to the growing needs or will it be just a paper exercise of reducing support that is urgently needed in today's schools?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is currently not enough pupil support staff and not enough teaching staff in general to meet the every growing needs of our pupils. The council aims to raise attainment but this will not happen if the education budget is cut further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing funding for the schools and the Head Teachers' authority to spend appropriately for their school should be off the table. The school system is already stretched and this proposal would clearly negatively impact the system further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	While I agree partly with this as some resources could be purchased at one location with a larger discount and then be distributed after school clousers with covid and now potential strikes by teachers I do not support a reduction in teaching staff for children in way. Children are already behind and affected by covid without reducing staffing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am concerned for the implications this will have on education, my children's classroom and in the time they spend with their teacher, or in fact, a person who is qualified to educate them. 1 of my children has an ASN and already struggles with change at school. To have more change is simply unacceptable for him. He adores his teacher but she is already overworked and his classroom understaffed with no full time Support worker to support the many other children who also experience ASN's. Our children deserve better than they are currently getting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is not acceptable. The children of West Lothian deserve better. Many of them need support, nurture and stability when at school because they simply do not receive this at home. They do not need less time in class with a consistent adult they need to be more supported when in school to prevent future issues developing and cycles repeating themselves.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am concerned about potential changes to pupil support staffing arrangements. Pupil support departments provide vital support to a pupils with a range of needs who find school challenging. The covid pandemic has increased the support that children and their families need. A large proportion of this support comes directly from pupil support staff who are already working at capacity. Any change to staffing here will have a direct impact on pupil and staff wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Absolutely not, our education services must be retained to ensure our young people have the right support in place to ensure they receive the education they need to succeed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I can't see how schools can operate efficiently with fewer pupil support staff. More and more pupils are being diagnosed with mental health issues and additional learning needs - how do you plan to get it right for these pupils without the appropriate support available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Terrible idea. Young people have suffered enough since the pandemic. They should be supported with additional funding to catch up with lost learning and to close the attainment gap. The idea of reducing funding to schools will have a major impact on our future generation (of voters).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need the most funding so this should be top priority	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is the part of the proposals that terrifies me. Schools are struggling to meet demands placed on them already. Cost of living crisis is hitting families hard and schools are seeing the effects on the children and families that they serve. I fear that the changes to pupil support arrangements simply means that those roles will disappear and our schools and communities will be all the poorer for it. Many teachers are already struggling and are disaffected by the role (as evidenced by the imminent strike action), further cuts to funding and staffing will only serve to turn more and more people away from the sector, leading to a crisis in education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	without schools and the resources to keep going how can we teach and have our future go on to do greater things all people who are be it the teachers the cooks the cleaners the school crossing play a vital roll in our kids future	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	A big fat no, cutting down on pupil support is not good, there is not enough as it is. Making it online is not great as some people dont have access to online provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, School resources and staffing are already stretched to capacity. Reducing this will impact on the education of all children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Many of our schools are understaffed as i see. Not sure i would like to see third-party companies involved in teaching which can create issues in regard to the authority which eventually affect our children. Technology is great but high dependency on these at school may not be the best. It should be well-balanced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must continue to receive sufficient funding and more to ensure the attainment gap doesn't get wider	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is important and should be given all the resources needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There's not enough funding in this area. ASN are underpaid for the work they do which is increasingly challenging as the number of pupils with diagnoses has increased. We have far fewer admin staff due to previous cutbacks. And 'making greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum' - what does that mean? The virtual campus for AH is nowhere near as effective as in person teaching. I have observed colleagues trying to deliver virtual AH effectively and the amount of unpaid overtime that goes into it is ridiculous. Classroom teachers are trying to get it right for every child and with even less support staff, there will be a massive impact on stress on teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So teacher skill and expertise are worthless now?! The education of children in schools seems like it is not valued by you anymore! Schools are already on their knees thanks to previous cuts! PSWs who are already also stretched to the max are going to be further stretched?! What happens when the child in my class with severe autism is having a really tricky moment and needs adult intervention, at the same time my child who is known to be aggressive starts attacking others meanwhile my child who suffers from daily seizures has an episode. All at the same time. (which has happened.) You've taken my psw with these cuts. Who helps me?! No-one knows my children and their needs like I do. Absolute disgrace that once again teachers and schools are targeted. I'd LOVE to see some of the people making these decisions come in and see the reality of a school over the week as it is now, let alone once you've demolished us through funding again!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Do not agree with this schools are already stretch snd with the increase levels of needs in school school support staff are more needed now and bringing in a third party could ge a disaster.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	With the ever increasing demands on schools and the need to support all learners, I think reducing resources further within schools will have a detrimental effect on all learners. How is this getting it right for every child? Also why not close some small schools and pull them into larger schools I.e Dechmont.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff are overstretched and this is impacting teaching staff. Pupils who are in desperate need of support are going without.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School Pupul Support Workers are worth their weight in gold. They provide regular support and challenge for learners and any cuts to this service would have a negative impact on attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cannot afford to make this amount of cuts. Without high investment in education, poverty attainment gap cannot be minimized. Young people are the future of the council and with cuts of this level young people will not be given the best educational experience making them fall behind others. ; Special education needs to be further invested in as this is lacking significantly and young people being pushed into mainstream schools which do not have the provisions to support young people. ; More investment in pupil support to look after young peoples mental health and health and well being as if this is not at the forefront of education then everything else will not be achievable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The curriculum should not be delivered through greater use of technologies. Our children deserve the right to a full education that is delivered in person by a qualified teacher. Children need to be in social spaces with adults to guide them in their learning. I do not agree with delivering the curriculum in this way.;; Additional support in schools is crucial for ensuring all children have access to an education thatewts their needs not our financial needs. I would not like to see any service cut for children and young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupils have suffered greatly through Covid, schools are already working with extremely tight budgets, the poverty gap in attainment has yet to be tackled effectively... it is therefore absolutely not the time to introduce a further cut to school provisions and budget. Support staff and support for our young people is needed more now than ever. The key word being more - pupils need more support, not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is completely unacceptable. Technology cannot deliver a curriculum in any way whatsoever. Schools are already struggling with large class sizes, increased expectations and falling standards year on year. To get rid of additional support teachers will simply mean that we are failing thousands of children and widening the already large attainment gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ridiculous. It is clear the decision makers in local government do not have a background in education. Stop making cuts/changes/restructuring to pupil support in schools. If you insist on limiting SEBN schools and special schools and continually ululate this idea of 'inclusive' schools then mainstream schools needs to be appropriately staffed with high quality teachers and support assistants.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There needs to be clearer information provided. This statement is too broad and does not give enough detail. The younger generation are already suffering post covid, mental health is at an all time low. Children need to be able to go into school and have the best support, adequate level of teachers, pupil support who can spot Children who are struggling either educationally or may be dealing with things in their home life. This is certainly not the area where funding should be stripped back.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing staffing levels in schools could be disastrous for some schools. Pupil support is already completely strained. Since covid there are more children struggling with their mental health and are unable to access the curriculum without one to one support of pupil support workers. Teachers are stressed with workload. Support for learning teachers are essential to ensure that pupils with additional support needs and teachers have support in raising attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This idea would mean less support for children, less options for nurture, mental health support, learning support and supporting children with additional needs. Supporting children in mainstream with additional needs is already stretched and many schools are struggling to cope. with the change to the cohorts in specialist provisions mainstream schools, specialist schools will not be able to Get it Right for every Child with cuts to pupil support. Already administering schools is a far more demanding job than it used to be with changes in policies and increased roles devolved to school office.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Supporting children in school should be a priority for the council. There are more children within mainstream primary schools with additional support needs who require high levels of support, what happens to these children if support is taken away? This would surely not fit with the GIRFEC agenda!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Yes schools need more staff to support children! Smaller class sizes would allow teachers to target learning better and provide the time to give meaningful feedback to raise attainment.; Digital technology is a crucial part of the curriculum and schools are failing the children we support, due to lack of up to date technology available to them. The budget should be used to provide 1:1 devices to children, this is something other councils already have in place!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need investment in more enhanced pupil support workers to be in classes, so that asn pupils can fully access their right to a mainstream education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Each year we have an increased amount of pupils with complex additional support needs in our school. Greater use of assistive technology is welcome however should not be seen as an adequate replacement for pupil support workers supporting pupils learning and social communication in person. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is important that children's education is not further compromised especially since the covid pandemic. It is vital that children have more than adequate support services which they can access whenever required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already struggling to provide the resources needed and are having to provide from their own pockets. This is only going to get worse as staff cannot afford to do so, and neither can some parents so the children will be the ones who suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Once again, digital technologies cannot be relied upon to deliver services. Education needs face to face and relationship building contact. The mental health of our young people is already in significant decline at large. ; ; Reducing qualified teacher contact for pupils is not the answer and should not be part of a plan to reduce costs. Our young people deserve to be educated by professional, trained, appropriately qualified staff. These are our future workforce, decision makers, voting public. ; ; ; It would be unjust to attempt to save money by denying our children and young people a quality education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are already insufficient additional support needs 'resources' in schools. Teachers are at breaking point as the inclusion agenda has plunged us, with insufficient specialist training, into situations where pupils who are not suitable for mainstream education command more of the teachers time just to keep things moving along. That time is taken away from other pupils who then don't perform as well. There are increasing numbers of pupils being identified with ASN in schools every year, some schools up to 50% of their role, and continually decreasing resources whilst class sizes remain the same. That gap is plugged directly by teachers, with more workload that is already unmanageable. Including a ton of admin we're not contracted to do which looks like it will increase too. And now your proposal is to throw specialists ASN teachers into a pot as core staff? Putting them in the exact same situation but in reverse. Insufficient experience in classroom, expecting them to be experts in a field that isn't their specialism, and taking them away from the ASN pupils who need them? There is another gap appearing in education alongside attainment gap, and that is the inclusion gap. And let's not even talk about the fact we can't even get reliable wifi in schools, never mind moving towards 'greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum'. Investment is needed in digital infrastructure, in ASN provision, and in administrative staffing to cover all the cuts that have been made over the years so teachers can reduce their workload and focus on improvement in the classroom. There are some council services that you can reduce that don't have a massive impact on a lot of people, education affects the lives of every single young person on our council area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	With the reduction in ASN provision in WL and schools now being flooded with children requiring high levels of support, the decision to further reduce support in schools will be catastrophic. School staff are already working in impossible conditions and I fear this will result in many leaving the profession and further difficulty with recruitment. Again specifics are lacking here to make further comment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cutbacks on staff in schools should not be an advantage to saving money as that means less teaching and more stress on teachers as it is already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a teacher who was off during the pandemic due to maternity leave I have noticed a huge drop in confidence, resilience, respect and initiative in learners, and behaviour in particular early secondary. Unfortunately delivery of curriculum through technology will be devastating to the future generations and putting those who want to be successful at a detriment. Having teachers in the classroom is what makes lessons!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is right to review services across WL; The issues for me WL do not have a true understanding of the roles that Admin and PSW full fill ; They are amongst the lowest paid with many on temp contracts; Due to a lack of specialist provision for asn pupils; PSW will be charged with supporting very specific needs; They more than class teachers will face the brunt of abusive threatening behaviour as well as assaults; To change the role of PSW or Admin would require a job review ; ; 3rd Party Providers covering after school clubs(active schools) already in school; They can charge what ever fee they wish - schools under enormous pressure to keep the cost of the school day down; They have limited space so is not open to all; Will only take baccs transfer for payments ; No primary school has the facility to pay this way; Schools are required to provide administrative support to support these clubs; Every external provider should have mandatory first aid qualifications ; Again school staff are required to provide support in this role; ; WL sports festivals - schools not encouraged to charge ; Transport cost often running into hundreds of £; Where are schools to find this cash; As pupils have not to miss out; ; After school clubs run by school are a source of cheap child care; ; Swimming assessments; School to pick up the transport cost; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is outrageous to think that you expect teachers to provide the same level of education, whilst trying to bridge the gap that's was already there and was made worse by covid, by removing pupil support workers. More hours are needed in this area, not less. Technology cannot deliver the same curriculum as people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am slightly concerned about the suggestion that digital resources will be used to 'deliver' the curriculum. I would like further clarification on what this actually means. I feel that schools are already well stocked with a range of IT equipment. ; ; if it means providing online materials like we did during covid times, then I am horrified at the suggestion. This method of 'teaching' did not reach our most disadvantaged children. Their education and life chances suffered hugely during lockdowns, due to the poor engagement of families, lack of suitable IT equipment at home, lack of knowledge of how to use the equipment they were provided, and lack of human contact and direct teaching in person for our pupils who need it most. This was not a good model for education. It was the best we could do in a situation completely outwith our control but it should never be repeated. Children need to learn in school from real teachers, face to face. If we learned anything during covid, it was this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am very worried that these changes may result in a reduction of staffing numbers, including teachers but especially in reference to school support staff. Pupil support workers are an invaluable asset to our schools and an essential part of our ability to ensure that pupils are adequately supported in their learning. We are already woefully short of support staff in schools and need more, not fewer, of these vital staff members. ; ; ; Finally, I have concerns about the number of people in education who are going to be out if work following these changes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Money needs to be invested in our education system to ensure we have a population for the future. At present we are failing a lot of our children due to lack of staffing to support their needs. This cannot be allowed to decrease even further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need pupil support staff to support our most vulnerable children. Children with additional needs are no longer gaining places in specialised schools and therefore attending mainstream schools. Without support staff we will not GIRFEC! At present we don't have enough support staff to adequately deliver the best possible outcomes for our children. If this service is cut then more children will not reach their full potential. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support has been diluted over the last 10 years and teachers are finding even more difficult to deal with class sizes if 33 with mixed ability and special needs without help.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is a terrible idea. Pupils need continuity and third party coming in don't know what has gone on before. Teacher needs to be able to speak to parents about everything but they won't know what happens during third party times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already struggling with the current model of not enough support staff and it has already been proven during covid that technology is not the answer. This will have a serious impact on children with ASN who are already at a disadvantage with current resources stretched to the limit. We need to look at more support staff in schools with ASN and most definately not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology cannot replace teachers face to face teaching. I just doesn't work. Children don't engage and parents cannot manage working and supporting children at home.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council has well established practice of supplementing excellent classroom teaching with effective use of technology. The two are complementary, rather than alternatives.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools absolutely cannot afford to lose any support staff. Schools cannot function without them. Given the increase in mental health issues in young people, especially since lockdowns due to Covid 19, support staff provide crucial support to our young people. There is also an increasing number of children with additional support needs requiring extra support in school to achieve their potential. Without skilled Pupil Support Workers to enable this, we will not be meeting the government GIRFEC guidance. Therefore our young people are being disadvantaged on a daily basis. We absolutely cannot lose Pupil Support Workers!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I'm unclear about what 'devolved school resources' involve and would appreciate more information on this. I would be hugely concerned at reducing pupil support staffing arrangements as this will hugely impact all children and teachers and would be incredibly detrimental for children with additional support needs who are so often already dealing with other issues including poverty, disabilities or other family difficulties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Terrible! Decisions made for schools by nooln educators or those who are out of touch with modern classroom experience. Presumption of mainstream means *more* support is needed, not less!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Proposed savings through the use of technologies is concerning. It was evident with the attempt to use on-line learning during COvid that children and young people need access to qualified teachers in person if they are to progress in their learning. The savings proposed also suggest that there would be unqualified teachers delivering content during teachers non-contact time. Again the children need to be taught curriculum content by qualified teachers at these times. With increasingly difficult class composition because of the presumption of mainstream and lack of alternative placements for children with ASN any reduction in qualified teachers and pupil support workers would be detrimental to the children and to teachers workload and mental health. I foresee a number of practitioners leaving the profession if these proposed savings should go ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School funding should not be diminished in any way. This will result in the pandemic affect children being even more affected and their learning experience further diminished. A more appropriate way to achieve these savings would be to have schools cooperatively working to share resource, including 3rd party providers, more effectively and efficiently. Its disgusting as it is that teachers are buying basic school provisions to cover the lack of supplies. Less costs associated with the managerial team and a streamlined council education dept with cooperative and imaginative solutions to issues, such as better use/increased use of social organisations providing free/cost lite activities and services. Also many parents such as myself would like a mechanism to donate to the school to provide for our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sitting in front of screens all day watching on line lessons!! May as well be at home	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional support of administration support in school is always a positive, support functions do make a difference in school. However I would hate to see a reduction in support function because funds are not available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School budgets and resources are already stretched thin. By reallocating resources, this may take away essential resources which WILL have an increased impact on learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Our children need staff not technology to deliver the curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is a steadily growing number of children with additional needs in terms of learning challenges and barriers caused by social and emotional factors - particularly since the Lockdowns caused by the pandemic but also because of the growing problems caused by societal issues such as poverty, mental health issues and substance abuse.; Do not sacrifice the education of children to save money. Special bases, units and schools are key to inclusion and meeting children's needs - not least those without challenges and barriers whose learning experiences are often affected adversely by children who require support not receiving it.; Children are the future of West Lothian - it is a false economy not to invest in them. Closer connections with the Social Services, Health Sector and Voluntary Agencies may be the answer - change the model not the money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any changes to the DSM model would have a significant impact on the pupils of West Lothian. Head teachers, deputes and principal teachers are already overworked and underpaid. This proposal will result in fewer and fewer people applying for SMT roles and existing SMT leaving the profession altogether - you only need to look at the recent EIS survey that highlights that workload is the most pressing issue for education staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What do you mean by greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum? Pupils need interaction with teachers and support staff. We should be investing in their future not cutting back on spending.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I work in a school as a PSW. We support staff are the backbone of a school. Without us the school would not be able to function. We are paid a very low wage but the expectations for the job had got bigger and bigger over the years. I can't see how you can run schools without support staff ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Making better use of technology to deliver the curriculum requires good internet services in schools. If changes to administration staff and support staffing arrangements mean less staff supporting in schools then I would need to disagree; With this. This would take away support from our most vulnerable pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cuts should not be made to Education that reduces staff, there are too many children with complex support needs in mainstream schools already and staff are doing more than their roles with the workload increasing almost daily.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not sure this will work. I have a son in secondary and doesn't have teachers for a couple of subjects just people standing in! I also think subjects like religious studies are pointless and with 2 yrs of covid closures kids need more education!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The education is one of the most important thing for the country. Teachers definitely need supports from admin and support teachers and they can deliver good quality education without these supports. I am not happy with this change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is essential and providing great service is an absolute must even if it means increasing council tax or something else, the children already use more technology than ever they definitely need humans supporting their development this is an absolute must and should not be getting cut at all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please do not be fooled by the 'digital technological revolution'. Many people are unable to learn from digital formats. Don't fall into the trap of believing this is a solution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is already understaffed and children are not getting the required support due to budgets .; Getting it right for every child is not happening.; ; Schools are being asked to provide more than just education so cutting resources is going to put more pressure on everyone involved in the front line of education.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools/education should be invested in not cut. Using greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum is denying children the attention they need and crave from education providers. Technology cannot respond to pupil's needs or notice additional support that may be required or any social issues. Pupil support workers already have a huge amount of responsibility and are asked to do a lot more than what they are paid for. Staffing levels should not be reduced. It is problematic for the pupil, the pupil support worker and for the future of that career choice.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	"Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum" is fine in theory but it only works if the technology is available. Technology costs money so I don't see how this is a plausible suggestion for saving costs. ; ; A revised DSM funding model sounds ominous and I don't like the potential impact that this could have on the children we educate. As I teacher, I already see the financial struggles that my school faces, with staff often buying their own resources and children not receiving the support that they need due to a lack of support staff. The very last thing that my school needs is a reduction in funds and a consequent reduction in the ability to employ qualified teachers and support staff. If anything, the children need more support as the years pass. This becomes more apparent every year, particularly with the hefty demands placed on our shoulders to raise attainment. Funding for staffing needs to rise and not fall. The education and future of our children relies on it. ; ; It is also clear that budget cuts mean less opportunities for staff to be promoted and develop their careers. If we are trying to entice the very best young people to become teachers, this is not a good way to do it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a secondary teacher, I find it very alarming to see the council considering £5m of cuts to allocation of resources. Schools need investment of £5m, not cuts. The main impact will be to the detriment of our young people, as well as increased stress and pressures on staff trying to deliver the best for their students. We need more, not less, support staff in schools otherwise we're failing our young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	; ; I question how technology can be better used to deliver the curriculum in an effective way when IT resources are so scant and poor in quality at the moment. WIFI in our school is awful and the idea that students can 'bring your own device' is laughable. We can't even use the school laptops in classrooms where the WIFI doesn't reach, let alone personal devices. Desktop PCs are so old they take a full period for a student to log into. Where is the funding to allow teachers the means to deliver relevant, engaging and tech centred courses which will allow us to prepare our students for life after school? ; ; In short, I feel provision of education is already on it's knees - budgets have been getting chipped away at for years and the impact is already keenly felt by teachers and staff who are trying to deliver on the principles of Cfe and all other education priorities. I find it hard to see how 'efficiencies' = better outcomes for our young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So schools should be focused on effective learning both academically but socially too. Different people learn different things in different ways. During the pandemic I can whole heartedly say some teaching was non-existent. If you are going down the route of online digital learning ensure teachers are equipped and trained to be confident online. I think technology is a good aid but it's just an aid. Children need to be stimulated and encouraged to be curious perhaps.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I can only go on feedback from my children and that most of his classes are staffed by teachers who don't turn up .. he has more free periods than ever and quite frankly encouraging him to stay on was the worst decision I made I wish I let him leave and get that job that goes nowhere .. schools are very disappointing .. this should be a priority	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think more money needs spent in the schools not less!, more opportunities for kids to take part in different sports, encouraging fitness and well being. James young needs a new swimming pool and changing room facility	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Having Pupil support in each year of primary school is vital, my daughter would have been left behind in her learning without it. They are underpaid and undervalued and must be protected moving forward	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cutting back on school resources will just impact the parents further as in order for the schools to continue to provide things as they currently do they will need to fundraise and that money then has to come from the parents!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are unable to cope with inclusion and the very little support provided at the moment. More cuts in support staff will drive professional teachers out of the job or it will become a childcare facility rather than an educational setting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You just know that won't work! Cutting; Funding for the education of kids in this area is not the way forward. ; We should be raising the funds not cutting them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	; You are devaluing teachers and the profession by even suggesting the our young people can get the same learning experience through technology rather than with a teacher - a trained professional! It is not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The school system over the years has been incredibly squeeze - and both staff and students suffer. Employing the use of technology to deliver the curriculum is not a substitute for teachers and is not acceptable. I do not want my children going to a school where they are required to watch screens/technology to learn parts of the curriculum because there isn't a teacher there to teach them. Screen/technology can help aid the core learning and even enhance the learning experience but it shouldn't be the primary source of deliverance ever! ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reduction of teacher / pupil contact time in primary schools is not a long term effective strategy. It would be harmful for children, already impacted by Covid interruptions. More resources, not less, should be allocated to both primary & secondary education to enhance attainment levels resulting in greater long term success for the county. Reducing teacher contact time undermines the Scottish government strategy of investing in our children. Our teachers are highly educated professionals whose skills should be valued, developed & utilised to the enhancement of all in our community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools have already been reduced to breaking point. Lockdown learning has shown us the importance of having pupils in class with teachers and support assistants and not learning online. Technology is already used effectively in schools and moving lessons more online or increasing class classes would only lead to a reduction in learning. Support assistants are already understaffed in many schools and are vital to the learning for pupils with additional support needs. Reducing their number further will lead to more pupils with additional support needs achieving below their potential due to not receiving the support they are entitled to.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is core and should be supported and invested in, especially following the challenges of Covid. Many good teachers and other school staff are leaving due to current workloads and expectations. I realise that change can be effective but concerned about the impact that further demands will bring. The health and wellbeing of all our staff should be priority for the future of our young people in West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Very wordy and difficult to understand statement! Perhaps hiding the true impact on children and their education.; Nursery Education has already been compromised by cuts making it a child minding service with little impact from fully trained professional teachers. I do not want to see this happen within schools. To take away fully trained support from children and supply them with support from people with very little training would be detrimental to Scottish Education. I strongly disagree with this saving!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I feel that children have already suffered due to the pandemic and are already struggling to catch up. Changes at all to staffing would cause children to fall behind more especially children with additional needs. They need their teachers, support teachers to help with their learning in school. All school staff have a vital role to play. My own child has been shown so much support at his school from receptionist, support staff and teachers. I fear that if any of that was to change my children would not be getting the correct support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No 'third party' arrangement can effectively replace professional teachers and PSWs in school, I am opposed to this. School staffing must increase not decrease. Too many people in development roles in civic centre or working from home. Cut these NOT in school support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are concerned that any changes to support staffing will disproportionately impact those who; are already disadvantaged, which would undermine the goals of inclusion and equity.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	.; ; We are concerned that changes to resourcing will have a negative impact on teaching and; learning.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The high value of this saving implies to us that it is likely to lead to a reduction in overall staffing; levels with a resulting impact on curricular provision. The loss of any support staff is likely to; impact wellbeing significantly, and we ask that this there is no adverse change to pupil support.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Teachers within our schools need to be strongly supported by Pupil support workers and advanced pupil support workers. The amount of children who need support in a class or one to one basis is paramount to the rest of the class being taught adequately. A child with ASN must be supported one to one at all times, cover is also required over break and lunch times to support individuals. No support within our schools would put far too much pressure on the class teachers and management, who rely so much on support of a PSW. The classes cannot be taught and well within curriculum with children who are at very different levels and need significant support in their learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The Education sector must be an area of development where the human resources are irreplaceable. All the schools, especially the Special School settings have been have known better days. At the moment, we have lack of staff to support our children with complex and additional needs. I propose;; - More Advanced Pupil Support Workers per class (review ratio Pupils:PSWs).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think this means for our children, less time spent with qualified teachers although it's worded vaguely. ; I don't think this is a good idea as it moves towards childcare rather than education. Could workload be reduced for teachers while maintaining pupil contact time? My teacher friends complain of endless paperwork.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Out sourcing to private companies to save money is a false economy if the services that they provide are profit driven as care for the needs of children should not be competing with a private company's need to make a profit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Our schools are supposed to be 'Getting It Right for Every Child', they are already failing so many. The schools are already Under staffed in terms of being able to meet the needs of all pupils, particularly those with additional needs. The staffing within schools feels completely stretched and I am extremely concerned about how any school would cope with further cut backs. We new seeing a huge increase in pupils with ASD in our main stream ELC and schools, we CANNOT meet their needs. The presumption of main stream is a great idea but it need to be carefully thought through and resources including space and staffing need to be put in place to meet all the needs of the children. The SFL within schools has already been cut back and we cannot meet the needs of all learners. If there are further cut backs then more and more children will be failed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Utilising resources provided for additional support for core staffing will result in less resources for children in need of additional support. ; Those that need help the most will suffer in the long term.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Our schools are supposed to be 'Getting It Right for Every Child', they are already failing so many. The schools are already Under staffed in terms of being able to meet the needs of all pupils, particularly those with additional needs. The presumption of main stream is a great idea but it need to be carefully thought through and resourced - schools are already lacking in space and staff to support these pupils. ; Why would anyone think cut backs in this area are acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please do not disadvantage our Children - they are our future. ; ; It is also not fair to further penalise those with additional learning needs by reducing their support staff. Nor is it fair on the other children in their class. I am very concerned about this proposal and do not support any part of it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am very concerned about this proposal. The technology resources my son uses in school are horrendous- American and way more game than actually learning anything. Especially after covid, teacher contact time is absolutely key and I am very against any reduction in this. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	; A further, extremely worrying, aspect is 'greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum'. I worry greatly that West Lothian council are looking to host online lessons or pre recorded lessons without a physical teacher in the class with pupils. Again, undermining the teaching profession and essentially declaring it as glorified babysitters. Technology can be used as a tool through which children access the curriculum but it simply cannot be the medium through which it is taught without a QUALIFIED TEACHER with a degree, experience, knowledge, care and understanding of their pupils needs. ; ; This is a terrifying proposal. You must reconsider all aspects of this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am absolutely SHOCKED and appalled at these suggestions and absolutely implore the council to rethink the savings they are looking to make. There are so many issues within this one paragraph that one simply cannot address fully in one response. You are proposing absolutely shocking amendments to our education system in West Lothian. Firstly, teachers are already stretched so thinly within their roles with the current class sizes and minimum pupil support staff already. This is going to greatly impact both learning for our pupils and teaching for our staff. The Scottish Government's main aim is GIRFEC Getting It Right For EVERY Child, something which we are already failing at in our schools as there are so many children with ASN whose needs just simply cannot be met by class teachers and this is not for a lack of trying. I fully understand the aim of inclusivity and the hopes that come with including those with ASN within mainstream but in many cases this is failing the child, their families and their futures - it is simply not the equity which our Education Scotland continuously say which they aim for. I also worry that changes to administrative staff will put further pressure on teaching and management staff in schools as the admin staff are already working on a very skeletal model which will take further attention away from learning and teaching of pupils of West Lothian.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need INCREASED funding and staffing. Not decreased. In any way.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as the consultation seeks to explain, the council must cut expenditure, not increase it.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not agree with cutting pupil support. This is an essential part of the school. Without them, the school teachers will spend more time managing class dynamics and difficult behaviour and less time teaching. Teachers will burn out, and the education of all the children will suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds like a large reduction in staff which will adversely impact on curricular provision. Support staff have had their work cut out during and since covid and any loss of staff here could impact on pupil's health & wellbeing and, would probably affect the more disadvantaged.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already on their knees in terms of support for pupils. Any move to reduce spending by further cutting the support available or by reducing face to face time with qualified teachers would be enormously detrimental to our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School staffing has already been cut to the bone with reductions in support staff over recent years. Any move to further weaken the education system, including replacing qualified teachers with support staff or technology would be severely detrimental to education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are on their knees and need huge amounts of investment, not reduction. Yes to investment in digital. West Lothian is behind many Scottish councils with regards to the digital learning available to their primary schools. Schools such as St. John Ogilvie need extensions as children are packed into classrooms like nothing I've ever seen, particularly p4b. Staffing increase is essential. Teachers cannot fulfil their remit without support staff. Children have a variety of different needs and the staffing is not available to sufficiently meet the needs. Reducing PEF funded APSWs in West Lothian schools is catastrophic for children, families and schools. The covid catch up programme can only be effective with sufficient staffing and support in place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as the consultation seeks to explain, the council must cut expenditure, not increase it.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is one of the key areas where funding already seems pretty stretched this is an area I would not be in favour of cutbacks	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I strongly feel that children do not need "greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum", but rather high quality teaching staff that can deliver in-person, face-to-face, high quality teaching that meets children's needs. If by "changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements" the council is proposing to reduce staff, I cannot support this. Schools need all the administrative and pupil support staff they can get.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am concerned that any changes to support staffing will disproportionately impact those who are already disadvantaged, which would undermine the goals of inclusion and equity.; I have not been able to locate a Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment in relation to this proposal, and request that one is carried out in order that impacts are highlighted and mitigated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am concerned that changes to resourcing will have a negative impact on teaching and learning. ; I raise the fact that this generation of young people have faced extremely challenging years, and applaud all efforts the schools and local authority have made to prioritise mental health and wellbeing in the months since lockdown. ; The high value of this saving implies to me that it is likely to lead to a reduction in overall staffing levels with a resulting impact on curricular provision. The loss of any support staff is likely to impact wellbeing significantly, and I ask that this there is no adverse change to pupil support. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Our schools are supposed to be 'Getting It Right for Every Child', they are already failing so many. The schools are already Under staffed in terms of being able to meet the needs of all pupils, particularly those with additional needs. The staffing within schools feels completely stretched and I am extremely concerned about how any school would cope with further cut backs. We new seeing a huge increase in pupils with ASD in our main stream ELC and schools, we CANNOT meet their needs. The presumption of main stream is a great idea but it need to be carefully thought through and resources including space and staffing need to be put in place to meet all the needs of the children. The SfL within schools has already been cut back and we cannot meet the needs of all learners. If there are further cut backs then more and more children will be failed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools, Teachers and PSWs are already struggling to meet the needs of children due to increased specific needs. As with the increasing number of children requiring additional support, violence towards staff becoming a regular occurrence to the point that it is being normalised. Reduced specialist places to provide needs of pupils as they leave primary schools as reduced spaces being offered. Councils should be investing in the future of our children and not sacrificing it for cost cutting measures. As schools are already on their knees I can guarantee this will be detrimental to education and those that suggest these measures are obviously completely unaware how schools are already struggling and will manage to justify these decisions with no accountability.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This causes me serious concern to the extent it will affect the support provided to pupils with additional support needs. My son in p5 has a spelling age of a pupil in p2 despite his hard endeavours, 1 session a week with the additional support for leaning teacher (the most the school can provide!), and with pupil support workers in the school. What happened to 'getting it right for every child'? The system is already failing my son. Please don't take away the little support he gets.; He's in a class of 33 with at least 3 others with additional support needs. How can a teacher deal with that with reduced support?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would be wholeheartedly again reducing the education budget at all. The increased use of digital technologies can be justified for academic reasons however not for cost reductions as the experience is note same. We need to do the best we can for the education of our children and we already need to improve and so should not reduce budgets for schools. Pupil support workers are an important part of the school ecosystem and the only wat to deal with current large class sizes and students with varied needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have concerns regarding "greater use of technology" to deliver the curriculum?? This could potentially mean reducing the number of teaching staff. The changes to administrative and pupil support staff and third party providers - what would this look like and what they will provide us an area of concern.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupils are entitled to a qualified teacher through their 25 hours in school. Any cuts to this would be to the detriment of every child.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is also crucial that technology does not and cannot replace good teachers- pupils cannot ask questions, seek clarification from or enter into dialogue with a screen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Devolved School Management can result in greater costs or the lack of ability to deliver particular aspects of school life and support. For example, several schools may be able to share the cost of a member of staff to visit each place to deliver a particular curricular area, where one school would not manage on its own.; Pupil support workers and admin staff are already incredibly stretched and to further diminish their numbers would have a terribly negative impact on schools and young people. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is very worrying in terms of the access to highly trained teachers and pupil support workers. Our children are some of our pay vulnerable, they are our decision makers and business people of the future, yet they are potentially facing some of the largest cuts. Why? It is also worrying re the prospect of reduced support for those needing it, support in schools is almost skeleton in parts already and a reduction will only lead to further distress, trauma and frustration for all those concerned and relying on these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cutting teachers, PSAs and support staff with further damage a service already cut to the bone. Greater technology to deliver the curriculum means teaching pupils via teams, doubtless with no training or support, which is a shabby substitute and will further alienate pupils & damage their life chances	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is an area where funding is already lacking pupils not recieving the level of support required to allow them to reach their full potential. To take some of the funding away would drastically affect children's learning and development further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is a chronic lack of ICT in schools currently, and what is available is outdated and inefficient. Learners using their own devices raises significant issues (e.g. how can this be adequately monitored to ensure appropriate use? What about equity? Furthermore, young people are addicted to their devices - a societal problem that schools should not be exacerbating); ; What does "greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum" even mean? We have experienced two periods of online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic which demonstrated that replacing face-to-face learning with a technological solution was ineffective for the majority of learners. No significant learning can occur without a significant relationship.; ; In sum, more support staff are needed, not fewer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Teachers are in high demand and have options - it is absolutely critical that in any changes to the model of 'determining devolved school resources' does not further compromise our ability to attract high quality teachers to West Lothian. I daily take the train to Edinburgh alongside private school pupils and can immediately see how divergent their experience is. It is devastating to see how poorly resourced our public schools already are (if I compare to my own school in the 80s/90s what we are able to offer/resource in e.g. art or CDT is extremely poor). The paragraph above talks in euphemisms and barely acknowledges the potential impact on young people or on school staff. It is almost impossible to recruit into teacher training and I fear a whole generation are missing out and we are exacerbating previous educational inequalities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am concerned that changes to administrative and pupil support staffing means fewer members of support staff. Schools already face decreasing numbers of support staff who are essential in helping to properly support the wide range of needs and behavioural challenges within schools. Schools need more staff to be able to give children one of the most important resources - our time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Using teaching assistants to replace fully qualified teachers is not acceptable.; Using third party services is good in theory but how is the standard of delivery being assessed and enforced?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Parents continually shell out hard earned money to help the schools and indeed the pupils especially with any additional curriculum activities.; ; Short sighted proposal and an easy hit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How can you even consider reducing the investment in the future generation schools are already struggling for funds? ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	A disgusting proposal. Education is on its knees. Staff are the best resource and you want to reduce the number?! Shame on you.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am a teacher and classes need support of pupil support staff due to the inclusion of diverse children attending schools. This is an absolute requirement to help Closing The Attainment Gap. I don't believe in relying too much on technology for teaching and learning. Literacy levels are best achieved through books and traditional writing practice.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Horrible idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil Support Workers are already underpaid and are being cut left, right and centre without being replaced. Schools cannot operate without administrative staff either. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	"Utilising resources provided to deliver additional support in schools"? What does that even mean? ; ; What I take away from the "proposal" above is that the council mean to demote schools to glorified child-minding services. This is NOT what schools are for. We need to EDUCATE our children, not just have them pass the time of day while a non-teaching member of staff supervises them. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If this proposal impacts on school management teams then perhaps it should be reconsidered as it is already difficult to get hold of staff within schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please do not overburden staff who are already struggling to manage workload. Staff leaving in high numbers especially in West Lothian - this will cause damage that cannot be undone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Outsourcing to private companies often results in poorer service and poorer terms and conditions for workers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a parent of children in WL primary school and nursery I am extremely concerned at the proposal to increase the use of technology to deliver the curriculum. This suggests to me that our children will experience their learning using online lessons or apps etc rather than with a teacher in front of them. The use of technology should only be used to support the professional teachers to deliver a lesson and not to replace them. I think it is a disgrace that West Lothian council would even think that this is a reasonable proposal! Our children are constantly encouraged and lured to be 'on-loine' in every aspect of their life. We are being told to reduce our children's screen time, in order to help their mental health yet the council are proposing to increase this area of life within school. As an ex-teacher I am also aware of the issues that are often faced when using technology within the class. A computer is never as reliable as a human!; It is also concerning that pupils support staffing may be changed/reduced. Support for learning within our schools already seems stretched and the needs of some children are already not being met. If more children with additional needs are being placed in mainstream schools, their needs must be provided for and not forgotten about. By reducing pupil support the council will be failing so many of our young people, in a time where our government are telling us that 'Getting it right for every child' is what our education system is all about.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Stop cutting staff and relying on computers to teach our children ! Children spend enough time on technology they need paper, pencils, good teachers and support staff who care about their pupils, less technology. Stop cutting funding in places that need it. Schools struggle as it is to function !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What are the changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements that are being proposed? This has been left so vague! There is already not enough support in schools for pupils with additional needs and administrative staff are already stretched. Education is the wrong place to make cut backs our schools are already financially struggling. How are we 'getting it right for every child' by cutting back on support, we are failing our children.; Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum? What does this even mean? After everything our young people have been through during covid, please do not make them spend any more time in front of screens!! Are we considering their mental health? We cannot replace our teachers with screens!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already overstretched with severe lack of resources and staffing. If any staff are absent, it seriously affects pupils - particularly those pupils who are part of nurture groups and health and wellbeing interventions. Schools need the proper resources, staffing and support to deliver high quality education to young people. They will not thrive without this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Outsourcing and losing jobs in the process.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a member of education staff, some of this is very concerning. "Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum" does not necessarily mean that learners will benefit - teachers are trained professionals and students' learning experiences will be diminished if classes are delivered via online learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Working in a school is a very challenging and demanding role, although very rewarding; however cuts are having a significant impact on pupil and staff wellbeing. Education staff are not mental health specialists or social workers and pupils are suffering as support is being cut from other areas (outside schools - e.g CAMHS waiting lists, lack of mental health support in the meantime) - changes to pupil support staffing arrangements (especially if it means less staff) will not benefit pupils and can lead to longer term issues and mean schools fail to "get it right for every child." This will also negatively impact attainment. ; I appreciate difficult decisions need to be made and that funding/the budget is a major issue but underfunding vital services costs far more in the long term and this should be taken into account.; Schools have been working incredibly hard, including though the pandemic, which has been stressful and are still continuing to deal with issues relating to the pandemic, on top of everything else. Should cuts negatively impact schools, it is clear this will have a massive impact on students (wellbeing, attainment, engagement) but also on staff which could lead to staff leaving in the future for less stressful, better paid jobs. This should be taken into consideration as all staff I have worked with have been amazing and do so much for the young people they work with and would be a great loss.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	£5million is an incredible amount of money to cut from school resource budget. Schools are struggling already - lack of staff as the main resource. Staff absence seems to be at an all time high and this will hit even harder.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Covid has shown digital delivery for education is not effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff are such a valuable tool to assist classroom teachers raise attainment. 3rd party providers do not have the training of either teaching staff or support staff. Knowledge of child development, various teaching strategies and of any additional support needs is vital for all children to progress. 3rd party providers do not have this training, expertise or experience. This would be entirely detrimental to all children of West Lothian. The curriculum is already packed, so to try and take away time from that is not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Given the impact of covid on our young people there needs to be a large number of pupil support staff available to allow our young people to fully access the curriculum and to support mental health and families given the reduction in other services which has meant these now fall into schools to support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is of prime importance and must be properly run to give the pupils the type of education they deserve, that will benefit them throughout life and add quality in the building of the country. They must have quality teaching and support and not use so much technology to run classrooms if pupils don't understand what it's telling them, it can't provide support and guidance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	schools will not run effectively if you have to reduce any hours of office staff but also pupil support workers are very much needed in schools as there are a lot more children needing one to one support in Main Stream Settings which i think is great to see the inclusion	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I disagree that resources for delivering additional support in schools should be redirected to core staffing. There is not enough support in main stream schools for pupils with ASN as it is just now, the pressures on school staff and the resulting negative effect on all pupils in schools would cause significant harm to the education of all children. Schools are working with minimal staffing as it is, both admin and support staff, I do not see that it is possible to reduce these areas of staffing without having a negative effect on teaching and the education of children. Also, the negative effect this would have by increasing the workload and stress of all staff that would be left in each school.; If the staff in schools is to be reduced, then decisions will need to be made on what parts of the education service will no longer be provided and parents should be told by the council what to expect. There are no new technologies imminent that will reduce the workload of admin staff and technology is unlikely ever result in a significant reduction of the workload of support staff, particularly for ASN pupil support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have concerns about using technology to deliver the curriculum. The usual classroom dialogue and relationship between teacher and pupil becomes impossible - both of which are at the core of good learning and teaching. There will be an impact on attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are struggling as is without taking resources away	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The school staff work-load has been increased over the last 10 years with no consideration for changes in job remit; School staff are paid just more than minimum wage for a job remit that now seems them taking on devolved duties from other parts of the council due to lack of staff and management of resources; ; Schools just this year have been tasked with processing all young scot cards because partnerships centres no long have the staff to do this. Staff in schools are already under-paid and under-staffed for the remit that grows each year	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't understand what you a proposing.; Our students do not have enough support as it is. Why are you considering reducing the support staff?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The need for support for pupils is becoming ever greater, and this is an area where reduced funding or redeployment of additional support resources to core requirements will be detrimental to staff, pupils and families. It will no doubt also lead to an increase of the workload of class teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support staffing are integral component of all schools support staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Very difficult to comment as that isn't clear to me, maybe because I don't have children at school and don't work in the schools but I do find the statement greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum very concerning. During the pandemic we found many school pupils did not engage with remote learning, switched off from education completely and I think this shows we need the human touch in education. Technology can enhance the learning experience but that cannot be at the cost of the human element.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Do not cut PSW's in Schools - genuinely the schools would be unable to function.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Categorically no more use of third-party providers should be permitted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	By cutting the funding allocated to DSM by £5 million, this will have an immediate impact on schools directly and the means available to Head Teachers to directly benefit the children and young people in their schools through the resources used, the staffing available, etc. If the DSM is reduced it potentially means less promoted staff will be available to carry out management tasks. Therefore, these would be devolved further down. As a result of reduced staffing, there may be fewer classes and class sizes will be larger as the major cost to a school is staffing. Furthermore, as a result of budget reductions, there will be less development opportunities in terms of development posts in both primary and secondary schools. This has major knock-on effects in terms of reducing opportunities to develop the skills and experiences needed to gain promotion. ; ; In secondary schools, smaller classes may not run and fewer subjects may be offered in course choices for young people from S3 and above.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Admin and support staff work extremely hard and deliver vital support to schools. This workload will not go away by reducing staff numbers, it will merely mean the staff who remain will have to take on a greater individual workload.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Deliver of the curriculum via tech only should only be used in emergency situations and not relied on as a way of saving money by using teachers across more than one classroom/school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support staffing levels are already stretched to deliver what is necessary to Pupils with additional support needs. Staffing should be increased, not decreased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as the consultation seeks to explain, the council must cut expenditure, not increase it.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as children are being taught in classrooms by teachers - digitally delivering the curriculum and non-teachers delivering core curriculum is not acceptable for our children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This would be catastrophic to education in West Lothian! Schools are already underfunded and under resourced dealing with students who have multiple complex needs. More than ever after Covid we need to provide additional support assistants to help teachers educate the future generations - not reduce this valuable resource! If Covid has taught us one thing in education is that there is no substitute for students being in class, mixing with their peers in front of a teacher with support assistants to provide the best educational environment!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	With the policy of inclusion it is vital that the resources are in place to support our children with additional support needs in all schools. Cutting budgets for Pupil Support Workers or specialist teaching staff would be detrimental to the education of all children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already cutting costs as they are, combined with managing the cost of the school day and supporting families who are struggling with the cost of living crisis - we cannot cut their budget any further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	A large number of children and teenagers education suffered through lockdown(which was unavoidable), however a lot of these children and youths are still suffering and playing catch up. Personally within the family we had a young relative who this year has just started primary school, but had specific support needs that nursery would have helped with and is currently struggling at school. To reduce some teaching resources would put him back even further. Kids who have missed out through the lockdown period some are still struggling to catch up as home schooling was not always available or met their needs. Would be a shame to see the children bare the brunt of this again and education suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As an advanced pupil support worker i fail to see how cutting numbers would help in West Lothian pledge to raise attainment, Teachers are leaving the profession in droves due to the increased work load, lack of classroom support as it is and the fact they are dealing with the fall out of the pandemic. Pupil Support are not only in schools to supervise lunch/play times. We are skilled trained individuals that deliver the targeted interventions to raise the attainment. I personally am a qualified Maths Recovery Teacher and all my colleagues are individual specialist in certain interventions including, literacy,numeracy, health and wellbeing and more niche practices, eg mental health, drawing and talking,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	With the increase of ASN children in mainstream schools due to the closure of specialist facilities, most of support workers time is taken up with helping either the pupils or the teacher, can you explain to me how a teacher with an average class of 30 including several EAL children a few ASN,ADHD, ODD are going to be able to individually manage needs and teach to the required attainment levels, as well as managing behaviour, needs etc ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	3rd party providers should not be used. All services should remain within the council and teachers and education staff be paid fairly taking into the account of current inflation levels and add an additional 2 percent to any pay offer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The Council will honour all national pay agreements, but will not introduce local supplements.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How would this realistically look in schools? I am both a parent and an ASN teacher within the council. A lot of the young people I work with refuse to engage with online learning and although it is tough 1-1 in person, this is far more effective for their mental health and gives them a chance to see other people than their families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	schools need more resources, not less! my wife is a teacher and the amount she spends on resources because they don't have proper funding is unreal. we buy costumes for kids for book week that can't afford it, specific learning aids for kids that need them, its shocking if you cut teaching resources.; the number of kids with diagnosed additional needs is far below those that actually have learning abilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as the consultation seeks to explain, the council must cut expenditure, not increase it.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Without more information pertaining to 'devolved school resources' and understanding the logistics we do not feel able to answer this question. However, a £5 million cut to school resources is a frightening concept considering we are aware of local schools begging for help to fund the very basics of education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Alarming to think of Third party involvement what would the cost in the long run I'm sure it would outweigh the saving in fact it would probably increase the cost	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is a huge amount to cut from the education budget. ; At very least at Early and First level maintaining a high adult to child ratio, including classroom assistants and specially trained support for learning staff, is essential to provide the interactions required for the development of fundamental skills especially those linked to language, phonological awareness and early concept development.; This is a vital stage in establishing literacy and numeracy skills and making cuts here that impact on those children who do not come to school with the pre-requisite skills for establishing early literacy and number in place will ultimately mean higher costs and a failure to meet the Government agenda for GIRFEC.; Failure to meet needs and provide appropriate intervention in the initial stages will inevitably result in greater cost pressures further through the system.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reallocating additional support budgets within schools will mean the children who have the greatest needs will be let down by West Lothian Council. This is not a good area to try to find savings from, we should be adding to school budgets not reducing them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as the consultation seeks to explain, the council must cut expenditure, not increase it.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	With more children coming into school who have additional support needs a cut in the number of Pupil Support staff is a big concern. The need for these services are vital within the schools and the support they provide for both the children and the teacher is vital. the current trend strongly indicates that their support will; needed to be increased as more children from Early years are identified as needing additional support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please don't remove funding from school or make staff cuts, our children need a quality education and we are already way behind other countries. We need these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are in need of a higher number of pupil support workers. The extra, trained person in the class on a more regular basis has a greater impact on the learning and well being of the child than anything else we can put in place. Yes improving digital technology in schools and providing more equipment would be lovely but their is still a greater need for trained support assistants.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It's essential to support pupil support. They are already massively stretched and as practitioners expected to do advanced work at minimum wage	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This does not seem like a good idea. The quality of school services in Bathgate are already on the limit to "poor" this change will risk further degradation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional needs provision is poor. Too much cost cutting, not enough staff. Should not be cut to meet ridiculous targets. Pupils must come first. Efficiency in schools great but not to the detriment of additional needs support. Basics first.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School support staff are an absolute essential part of the functionality of a school, and the teachers would be unable to teach without this resource. The role of pupil support has evolved much more in recent years in terms of pupil liaison and family liaison also. A removal of this resource will have an impact on classroom disruption and will impact on the curriculum. I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me to.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Curriculum delicately should be peer to peer as much as possible. Technology may increase costs for poorer families who can't afford computers etc. Parents will find it harder to assist with homework. ; There is overwhelming evidence in psychology to show younger children with increased screen time lack the eye to eye contact required to attain social skills and communication skills	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unsupportive if this has an impact on the range of learning resources schools have. Given the mix of children in mainstream schools and the number of children with low level additional support needs, need to make sure as much resource is available as possible to support learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It's concerning that utilizing resources for additional support needs is top of the list. Educational outcomes for children with additional needs are already poor. These children need more support and small group settings should be introduced in most schools. Exclusion rates for autistic children are abysmal so utilizing (using) their support elsewhere is upsetting to hear as a mother of 2 autistic children who has had to fight for them to receive appropriate care and support in school for the majority of their time there.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff and core staff;; We currently have access to a number of different agencies and specialists in schooling to help deliver and achieve the appropriate additional support for children who need this. Stripping this away and replacing it with staffing already in place, without additional training for the people who will now be responsible, will lead to a reduction in support from staff who are specifically trained for their needs, greater stress burden on staff whose expertise is unlikely to correlate to complex needs presented by children under their care and this will come at a detriment to the children in schooling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School staff are already under pressure with more needs in the classroom and lack of support workers to help. We are focused on raising attainment for every child which is incredibly difficult in a class of 33 with no support. Making further cuts to this support will make it harder to implement GIRFEC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't feel this is fair at all. Why should the children miss out on resources when they've already been affected so badly with the closure of schools and recent isolation. Why is this the biggest saving? Taking from the youths of the future is not the answer. Kids need that extra support whilst at school because home life has become far too busy for the parents. Parents can't be expected to work even harder and longer while they're kids are devolved!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Saving £5million on schools that already have suffered with savings and cuts. There is not enough staff members adequately trained to look after and support kids with additional needs within schools. School teachers and nursery practitioners are already having to fund things themselves as there just isn't any money for them to carry out their curriculum to the fullest potential.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The same goes for school's no cuts should be made to staffing here and more funds should be provided. Again, not enough staff and too many kids. Teachers and youth services are already heavily under funded. It would be an absolute joke to cut from here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not believe youth services should have any reductions in funds. It has already been cut to the bare minimum half of youth clubs across West Lothian were shut in the last savings and the very little that is left are over worked and over stretched. Too many kids not enough Staff or clubs! The same goes for school's no cuts should be made to staffing here and more funds should be provided. Again, not enough staff and too many kids. Teachers and youth services are already heavily under funded. It would be an absolute joke to cut from here. ; How about looking further into the structure of road management services. Council workers for road digs, traffic management, pot holes bad road resurfacing. It would seem there is an over staffed issue here. Many times I have seen and it is widely seen by others. 5 men on the job but only 2 working. This is actually a laughing point by many. West Lothian Council can't staff there schools but can pay street services to sit and watch the show.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. This question does not, however, relate to youth services or roads maintenance which are covered elsewhere within the consultation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools really do need the extra support staff especially as more children with additional needs go to main stream school and its impossible a teacher on their own to give all the extra help required with 25-30 people in a class. More mental health issues will likely arise in pupils and staff if we don't get supporting this fully.; Too much technology happening in schools not always needed as children never get a break from it as alot will be on it at home also.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would like to refrain from changing the costs in schools I think education is important and teaching time should not be substituted for technology. There is too many children with additional support needs in Main Street classes. Taking money away from school will compromise childrens learning	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Absolutely not cuts should be made to education. Especially the allocation of pupil support staff members half the children aren't being supported appropriately as it is never mind scaling this back, schools have severe lack of resources at the moment it's highly concerning this is being proposed as the mother of a child who requires additional support at a low level I feel for the children who will be let down by the system, fall through the cracks and ultimately failed the chance at a fair and equal education,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need support workers. This doesn't need cut they need more.... the more additional needd kids coming in they need support and the right trained people in place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children have suffered enough during the pandemic and do not need a cut in school services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Conditions are already difficult in schools. Almost £6 million including the below, this is frightening.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The schools are already massively stretched with staffing. I strongly disagree with any reduction. I also disagree with increasing technology- kids need to learn through doing and people interactions. There is already too much emphasis on using technology and it's having an impact on childrens mental well-being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Do not cut school funding, this is wrong! Mental health in children is at an all-time high post-pandemic, recovery of this will take 10 years, schools need investment, not cuts especially the additional support staffing. As more and more parents fight for rights of children with disabilities to attend mainstream schools, this should not affect their ability to do this, however for schools to manage this they need the right support and investment or all the children suffer. Deprivation and social class divide will get worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We absolutely do not support changes that reduce the amount of teachers or teaching assistants in any West Lothian school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We absolutely do not support a return to online teaching. The teaching during Covid was dreadful and alienated many kids, my own included. Class sizes cannot be increased. ; What service would be provided by third party services. Your question gives no other information. Why would external be cheaper than WLC staff as well as being to the same or better standard ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Why are you using third party? Surely it can be done within services in the council? If not, why not? ; ; Education is vital to children, as are safe buildings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School funding is at an all time low. Any costs that can be saved whilst much needs support given to teachers and staff without further disruption / impact on students would be required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	do not reduce staffing in schools as school numbers will be going up in some areas so a reduction in staff will provide a poorer service to our young people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reducing class hours or staffing numbers or pupil support would just not be acceptable how are children expected to be able to get a full education and the support they need with out these fundamentals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pointless, reduce support reduce quality of service. More technology in schools is just throwing money away. More support and staff make a difference to the quality of education not chucking iPads and interactive whiteboards about without the ICT support to maintain them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not wish to see my child doing a lot of their work on a computer/laptop. There should always be a Teacher at the front of the class NOT Robbie Robot.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Stop cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Completely disagree with this option and not supportive at all. ; The education system is already a disgrace and it's a concern that a reduction in service is even an option.; Surely education should be seen as a higher priority rather than looking at ways to reduce costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools have continually been hit by budget cuts and it is beginning to show in the state of school buildings. Our children deserve the best possible education and will not receive this if resources and experiences schools can provide are constantly being reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The schools and education system requires as much help as it can get, pupils are suffering badly at the moment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If some of the above implies cuts to staffing [especially special needs] never forget that the earlier in a child's life the investment in additional support is made, the better the return both financially and developmentally.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The only thing you should be doing with schools is putting more money into them!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as the consultation seeks to explain, the Council must reduce not increase expenditure.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please protect face to face time especially for kids living in areas of deprivation or with known risk factors.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I work in a primary school and I cannot see anywhere that cut backs would be beneficial. ALL school staff are overworked and go above and beyond to ensure the smooth running of the school. I would definitely NOT consider any reduction of Admin staff or Support staff. As an admin myself, I work over my hours on a daily basis. Our school also continually reviews best practice to save money on resources and to use technology within the school to it's potential.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Nope. Schools need staff!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School pupil Support are a great asset to the pupils, the teachers, there are a lot of pupils who need that extra support and the teaching staff don,t often have the time to work with these individual pupils as they have a full class to support in their teaching. The administrative staff have a very challenging job and their is never enough of them to do this job.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I know from experience that some third party providers are vital to schools, whereas some are not. A review seems sensible.; ; Changes to admin and pupil support worries me, these roles are vital within schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This proposal to adapt the allocation of school resources is extremely worrying. Schools are already pushed to breaking point to make things work the way we currently are - any changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements would significantly impact the wellbeing and achievement of all West Lothian pupils who require additional support. Their education and the classroom learning experience generally would be severely negatively affected. We cannot provide an education to be proud of with less help than we currently have.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Welcome Devolved School Management as it should always be the schools themselves making important decisions on funding as they will know what is required. There should be no cuts in teachers or support staff as education is a priority.; Cutting back on janitorial and cleaning staff should be reviewed to make sure there is not a decrease in service especially if it is proposed that staff be shared. These staff were essential during the pandemic and should be supported going forward. They should not be contracted out as funding for these services should not go to profits for external companies.; Although using technology to aid in teaching can be a good thing, there is a concern that there will be a loss in social interaction and engagement and some vulnerable pupils will be isolated with this move. Communication skills need to be developed and sitting at computer for hours does not help with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party is always more expensive and less tailored.; Use of technology in education may further increase the gap for those who is poorer and those who suffer from lack of warm human interaction (poorer, ASN). ; There is nothing better than human interaction in early age, and emotionally wiped out teachers only may not be enough.; Further reduction of resource in schools will increase the societal class gap and disadvantage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any changes to schools and the way education is delivered should be considered carefully. I can only comment in my experience, (child at Whitburn Academy) this school is stretched as it is, there are numerous problems at this school. I believe funding should be increased to help education and teachers should be encouraged to remain in posts for duration of school terms - not jumping to other jobs half way through the school year.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools must have sufficient staff to continue to provide a high quality services. Mainstream schools have high numbers of staff with ASN and need the staff to include these children. Admin is a huge part of school life and must have staff to support this. There is a limit to what can be put on HTs and teachers. In the world outside schools what seems like a small change can actually be a huge one.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is the the important factor for our future generations and should not be reduced at any cost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any reduction in administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements in schools will increase the workload of teaching staff who are already undertaking strike action in the near future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The supplies in school are not always the best of quality and therefore do not last long which in return means more money is spent in the long run as need to be replenished more often; Admin and pupil support workers are key to the day to day running in a school making changes and reducing numbers will have a huge impact to pupils learning this would mean some pupils would not be able to access the curriculum without the additional support they get . It would also make day to day work for teachers more difficult.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Wholesale changes to school staffing provisions is a huge concern. Having two teenagers in school (with around 1200 teenagers under on roof, an already struggling staffing system before staff even begin to deliver learning AND support the mental health pandemic that's followed the Covid pandemic, the impact of this proposal is much wider ranging than cost saving and I fear a step too far at the wrong time for the mental health and well-being of our young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	My son uses pupil support, and he needs even more of it, so reducing it for kids with need of it would be catastrophic.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am concerned that changes to resourcing will have a negative impact on teaching and learning.; ; This generation of young people have faced extremely challenging years, and applaud all efforts the schools and local authority have made to prioritise mental health and wellbeing in the months since lockdown.; ; The high value of this saving implies that it is likely to lead to a reduction in overall staffing levels with a resulting impact on curricular provision. The loss of any support staff is likely to impact wellbeing significantly, and as such there should be no adverse change to pupil support.; ; I am concerned that any changes to support staffing will disproportionately impact those who are already disadvantaged, which would undermine the goals of inclusion and equity.; ; I would request that a Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment in relation to this proposal is carried out in order that impacts are highlighted and mitigated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please do not	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is vital that school resources (including staffing levels) are not reduced. We must continue to invest (including the current, or greater, level of school resources) in children and young people - especially given the significant impacts on them from the pandemic.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This option needs to ensure no reduction in teaching quality and impact to students. School funding teacher pay and resource needs to be increased and not the subject of drastic cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Absolutely no cuts should be made to the already struggling education sector. Classroom sizes are already too big, there isn't enough support staff and resources are limited. Children's education should not suffer due to any proposed changes!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are an essential service and I believe student support staff are essential to helping educate our children. The education of our children is essential and all school services should be maintained as much as possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This isn't the time to be reducing the wellbeing, mental health and 1 to 1 support that the pupil support service and the admin teams provide.; The children are already suffering from classes being staffed by poor quality and non subject expert cover staff when teachers are off or being used in other capacities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am opposed to the overuse of digital technologies in the classroom. Teaching is as much about inspiring children as it is about delivering the curriculum. An iPad/tv/computer does not provide the inspiration that a teacher can. ; Pupil support is vital these days to support wide ranging academic and behavioural issues. Funding for pupil support should not be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	West Lothian has wasted vast sums of money already in technology in schools. The children are not performing better as a result. My children have been squeezed into vast class sizes despite promises these should reduce. My teenager reports that wonderful quiet dance teachers are being burnt out with their workload and instead that she is required to do a digital course in PSE which is foolhardy as well as ironic. There are not nearly enough nurture or support staff in primary schools but those that do exist are doing an amazing job with vulnerable children freeing up Core staff to teach the academic kids. Replacing talented staff with tech is a pure nonsense. It is not evidence based and. I can't imagine anyone with the slightest expertise in education would condone it. Bill Gates himself insists his children go to a school with small classes and absolutely no technology. I think that says it all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No cuts, children need people to teach them not more IT	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The use of technology in a school environment has a certain level of importance however children still need to be taught core skills without the use of technology including social skills, writing etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ensure that school services are not impacted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are currently not enough support workers to support all the pupils with additional support needs. As a council we are meant to be 'getting it right for every child' and this is just not happening for all of our most vulnerable people in mainstream classrooms. This will be made worse by these proposed cuts. The use of technology can be used to really engage pupils and enhance their learning, but this will only happen with the proper ICT in place. The wifi isn't suitable for this at my current location, and the lack of ICT means that this just isn't an effective way forward. Technology should be used alongside teachers rather than as a replacement for them. Schools and learning settings can only run with the support of admin staff, again your cuts will have a detrimental effect on the running of schools, more and more admin tasks will fall on the teachers and lead to more of them burning out and needing to be signed off. This is already a major problem, and many teachers not able to fulfil their current role with the time constraints of their contracts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As for reducing or re-allocating classroom assistants and student support teachers, this proposal appears to suggest the Council no longer will be under the same statutory requirements to provide additional support for learning or other purposes. On the other hand, if this question relates to additional staff provided separate from those supplied to fulfil specific statutory requirements, then I wonder whether the result will be insufficient staff for breakfast club, outdoor play, and field trips. Removing these opportunities will put the children of West Lothian at a particular disadvantage, and will call into question the Scottish Government's commitment to improve education for children across Scotland.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technologies in schools during covid did not appear to result in any measurable learning advantages (compared to the alternative methods of in person teaching or taking home jotters) at Linlithgow Primary School. The cost of the school's various homework apps, their lack of efficacy in terms of student buy-in, and the resulting consensus amongst students, staff and families that these apps will only be used as a last resort, paints a picture that suggests the acquisition of the homework apps was not at all good value for money. Let this be a lesson: replacing teaching with technology does not create so great a savings if the technology being used is not capable of achieving its intended aim. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't agree that any savings on school resources will be beneficial for children and young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any changes to support staffing will disproportionately impact those who are already disadvantaged, which would undermine the goals of inclusion and equity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am concerned that changes to resourcing will have a negative impact on teaching and learning.; Our young people have faced extremely challenging years, and school staff and local authority have done to prioritise mental health and wellbeing in the months since lockdown.; The high value of this saving implies that it is likely to lead to a reduction in overall staffing levels with a resulting impact on curricular provision. The loss of any support staff is likely to impact wellbeing significantly, so as many young people depend on this support, it is essential that it continues.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not agree with reducing the PSW support. I also feel that teacher / pupil should not be reduced in favour of a tablet / iPad.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil Support is vital in any school, making cuts to resources would not be beneficial as we work with the bare minimum as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party providers is a terrible idea. Schools need more investment not less. The schools are already underperforming and under pressure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I strongly strongly disagree with any proposals which dilute the education provided to our young people. Families choose to live in West Lothian due to the strong performances of schools. This should not be diluted and headteachers and teachers should continued to be support to directly engage with pupil performance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education has to be a priority and should not include any cuts but additional resources to ensure the best chances for all young people. Additional funding should be made available to support young people with additional support needs to maximise their learning opportunities that meet their needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as explained in the consultation, the purpose is to identify opportunities to reduce expenditure due to a reduction in available resources.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We can't use technology to deliver school resources, we need people and they have to feel valued.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am deeply concerned about school resources and the saving of £5mill!! As a retired education professional, I know that the provision of additional support is vital within an inclusive setting. Teachers are leaving the profession because if being asked to meet demands for children that are not possible because of lack of funding. Basic resources are often provided by teachers and lessons cannot be delivered successfully due to the lack of additional support for challenged learners ie additional needs, support for learning, behaviour and providing challenges to develop learning further for gifted children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds as if stringent economies should be made but I am worried that this will diminish standards. If these cuts are now vital, why haven't they been investigated before?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as explained in the consultation, the purpose is to identify opportunities to reduce expenditure due to a reduction in available resources.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, it's hard to discern from the description exactly what is proposed. However, it seems to suggest the impact would include removing additional support for schools (it is unclear what this support is) to subsidise core staffing and removing some support for pupils. On face value, both seem particularly hard to support because it is hard to identify whether there are negative impacts on students. It sounds as if there will be.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The removal of any funding from education is abhorrent. Countless children are already being failed by the education system. My ASD grandchildren - who have funding provided - get virtually no support in school. Specialized teaching is practically non-existent in mainstream school and access to Ceder Bank is I believe limited to 16 places for the whole of West Lothian. They are effectively being left to self- exclude when they can't overcome their anxiety and enter the building. Added to that no work is given because it has to be teacher led. What will happen to these children if the budget is further cut. If their disability was physical appropriate provision would have to be in place. Their - and many other- disabilities are invisible and so it seems are these children. What happened to Getting It Right For Every Child.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Don't cut learning support staff in schools or teacher hours - children need people teaching them not more computers. We still need school buses please.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	schools don't get enough funds at the moment children deserve to be given the best chance don't cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think there's not enough money for schools already and so I don't agree they should be cut anymore	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The schools underfunded already next generation deserve the best chance possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Better allocation of staff - split headship? Over 2 clusters? Where does this make sense? This is an organisational flaw from the top,;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This practice is already operating successfully in West Lothian schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	teachers are stressed enough with the way they are being treated (by pupils and parents) assaulted and abused at every turn. They work in excess of the hours they are required in order to provide the best service they can to their school their pupils their community. I am not a teacher but i see this personally and through family. earlier you stated that you were looking at cutting third party assistance here you state you want to increase it?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The proposal will not affect the relationship between teachers, pupils and parents, or national conditions of service.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Funny how you can only save 500,000 on management but 5 million on Schooling, changes to staffing so less staff ? or no wage rises for staff ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Will this impact children from disadvantaged families?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Specific allocations such as Pupil Equity Funding, Scottish Attainment challenge and many council funding streams take account of deprivation and disadvantage, and these are not affected by the proposal.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unable to comment on this point - I do not have any experience of how the curriculum is currently delivered or how school resources are currently allocated.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not qualified to comment other than as a parent - schools so underfunded and stretched - our problems are more then just budget related.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Have no children. I believe the teachers you have would be your best resource here	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	My daughter (also not in West Lothian) is a Pupil Support Assistant and so I know from what she says that her role is vital to helping the teachers manage those children in their classes with Special Needs - and how important her help is to the children who need her help. She has had lots of positive feedback from parents of the many children she works with	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is not enough information supplied above to make a comment on this other than that admin and pupil support levels are already stretched.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No idea. I'm not sure teachers can survive this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't have children at school so I don't find this relevant to me	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not sure what exactly you are planning to do in the schools.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This would depend entirely on more detail. The use of technology is helpful but sometimes work can be sent home that is not practical on a phone or tablet. If you don't own a printer then this can be difficult to achieve and sometimes the printing option is not available. This can sometimes mean kids who are at a disadvantage cannot keep up or participate properly	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School "back office" arrangements are already under significant pressure. How is this going to reduce that?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not know enough about the revised devolved school management funding model to make comments on this proposal.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Seems a very high saving but kids have missed out on enough last few years	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Saving? Without detail, again vacuous. Even with it, cost of provision that is inadequate now could hardly decrease and still be barely adequate.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Are the third party providers going to deliver a good service no service is better than a badly delivered service.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have a lot of experience interacting with an Academy in relation to my child.; Due to a condition, my child can not attend school on a full time basis. Teams are supposed to be used to communicate and set class work and homework. In my experience this is an extremely under-utilised tool, I am exasperated asking school for work to be put on teams. Some teachers do but not all.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think training for teachers to use teams effectively is needed, encouraged and expected.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	At the end of the day, if you start cutting staffing and vital services in schools, you severely disadvantage students, who already face many challenges outside of school. We are witnessing the aftermath of a pandemic on a generation of children. Five million pounds needs investing, not stripping away. A shameful suggestion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Does that mean cutting additional support and hiwndies that fit with GIRFEC requirements?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I feel my child's pupil support is already short staffed they work so hard to support kids going through so many difficulties I find it hard to think you can cut it any more as they are our first point in contact. It's outrageous to say we will cut that as who will look after the kids when they are suicidal or needing help? You will have kids not coming to school and then have others problems down the line. Who are you going to cut and why? I bet it's the lowest paid people who suffer most and work hard each day despite all the cuts you have already made. My kids school will suffer and they already have so much disadvantage compared to Linlithgow academy.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What about kids with support needs? Will they just be left behind and we will undo all the hard work that's been done. Technology doesn't work for all and we learned that through covid my sons would never learn that way. Cedarbank better get more spaces as that is where I will be sending my kids if you take suppprt out of school.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do wonder about the funding model noted and would welcome more information on this. How would you ensure the NIF priorities remain a priority? How do you continue to nurture equitable outcomes and subsequent attainment?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In regards to finding - what quality assurance has taken place on school funding? I also wonder which model you intend to use to assess the appropriateness of the use of public money	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology would be welcomed to supplement learning and teaching but it is clear that current technology is already outdated and variable across the authority. I'd therefore conclude that this would be incur more costs that it would save. If for example you are considering the Egsoil E learning offer. The resources do not constitute nor do they substitute adequate learning and teaching. Those who have the self efficacy to learn largely independently will do so and those who struggle will suffer.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So far schools seem good. My child is only in primary 1.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would like more information what this actually means. Staffing in schools, particularly support staff, is already under resourced. Cutting this further will have an adverse impact on learners.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Concerned about the consideration of third party providers for schools - what does this mean? Cheaper than teachers? Different regulations? Concerned that this could impact attainment, etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is the part that is most concerning. The statement is very vague. What would this look like? Schools already are hugely under resourced. By putting more of an emphasis on using technology, that would mean spending much more money to ensure that this was equal in all schools, which makes no sense. Also, what is meant by changes in pupil support staffing?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is this really going to be best for children? Getting children to access technology has challenges and often issues with equipment. Already pupil support has been reduced and at a time when recovering from covid, additional family issues relating to cost of living there should be more support rather than less.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not support this action at all as some pupils who have extra needs already do not get the help they need so are you saying that anyone who needs additional needs should not be in mainstream school	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Why is the largest cut you are looking for so far coming to the education sector?? It is proposed that the model for determining devolved school resources is revised further to identify opportunities for more efficient service delivery? Are we not efficiently delivering education to the students in West Lothian at the moment? This may include utilising resources provided to deliver additional support in schools for core staffing requirements, Staffing in schools and education is already cut to the core if you start cutting out staffing in buildings, They are not going to be cleaned/ repaired or maintained properly at this moment schools deal with daily leaks in their roof and flooding of areas within schools effecting the proper teaching of students. these cuts will make things worse. Key machines are also outdated or not being repaired due to their high costs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not sufficiently knowledgeable about how schools are resourced to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	They need consistency in pupil support staff and if you are taking this away by using elsewhere, again not sure what you are meaning! but If you are meaning third party provider like an agency for teachers then for ASN you would be making a fundamental mistake as you will only unsettle the kids who are used to and have a need to know who they are about to meet in school, keep surprising them then you aren't GIRFEC you would be getting this wrong!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What is the question you'd like us to comment on?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am not familiar with the Devolved School Management and do not feel able to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Anything that helps the schools get more money as they are seriously underfunded	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not a parent nor a WLC resident, so can't comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Neutral; Would need more specific definition of the changes proposed to be able to provide feedback	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	That would appear to involve a huge reduction in support staff. What impact will this have on children and families?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is very vague and doesn't explain exactly what is planned. Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum is great as long as it's not replacing GTCS qualified teachers who are the experts in their field.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Administration is also something the school needs on site, not sure where the savings would be here but struggling to see where we could trim staff without it impacting service and the work we do.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	However, it is not clear what is meant by third party providers, and whether £5 million can be saved by any other way then cutting support classes and increasing class sizes	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unsure how this impacts practically - what specific benefits; Local nursery reports low staff levels seems to have worsened since eldest daughter attended 4 years ago. Breakfast club options reduced, daughter used to have some choices but reports only basic/fewer options compared to first returning after covid. Free school meals - daughter reports free fruit and starts options never available?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It's difficult to comment on this as I don't really know what it truly entails.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would like more detailed information on this ...	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have concerns around proposals relating to additional support need services being redirected to core staffing requirements. This is an area I understand to be stretched already. What will this look like and what will be the learners who require support and thereongoing pathways and pisitive destinations?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Classes are already stretched with all students in mainstream education, very limited support for students and teachers completely overworked. Many children are already not having their needs met to enable them to learn. We need more teaching staff, not less.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already on a tight budget and constantly have to cut back/reassess spending. How do you expect your teaching staff to deliver high quality and engaging education if you cut them even further?!?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As parents, we're aware of the harms to our children's physical and emotional well being that excessive screen time brings. Our nervous systems coregulate with one another and loneliness is a huge worldwide health concern. Children need more connection with humans, not devices.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More information would have to be provided because "Devolved School Management funding model and through a review of provision by third party providers" is not enough information to provide accurate feedback	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already stretched. How can you justify further cuts?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There isn't any real details in this statement so I can't comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment, does not impact on myself.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What are devolved school resources? School facilities should be made available to everyone at a cost eg sports facilities, halls for events, and run as a centralised business across the region.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I understand the need to encourage children to use technology however children need face to face interaction in a school environment. School teachers and other staff are already working at capacity never mind trying to reduce resource! Not agreed.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What are the changes you plan to make? School resources should not be cut. When you say greater use of technology to deliver curriculum - do you mean Teams sessions?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Significantly more information required in order to comment on this. What spend would be required to realise the outcomes? Which 3rd party providers would be involved? What would be the scope of review and works?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Provision by third party providers - what will the governance structure look like ie how will you hold them to account etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't have enough knowledge to comment on this as don't have children.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Don't know much about that so would have to trust your judgement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This needs to be very carefully done, as children and staff in school cannot work at their best if their funding for resources is slashed.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already being told to do more with less. With the range of needs across mainstream schools, changes to pupil support is going to have a detrimental impact on all learners. All children have a right to education and without the proper support in place, whether in mainstream schools or not, then the local authority are going to fail children. As the local authority continue to allow contractors and housebuilding companies to build more and more houses, there is going to be continued need to provide spaces in local schools for these new families that may be moving into the area. There needs to be consideration for the growing populous as the local authority continues to grow in population.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Outsourcing is not always cost effective. Due diligence will be required to ensure that expected savings are real in the long term	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would wonder what the review of provision by a third-party would cost? And schools would need to be heavily involved in the consultation so as to feed in their individual needs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	A big saving here. Need to understand more about it though before I can give an opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The Devolved School Management funding model needs to be explained here. How it will work, how it will affect the teachers and the children etc? Again, many fancy words without actually explaining how these schemes will work.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am unsure about the value for money from "Third Party Providers" I feel any companies procured by the council usually come with a high cost. I would need further information before I could comment further.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School resources are limited already I think if they were limited further this would have a direct impact on the quality of childrens education.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would like further clarity on this and if there are examples of other local authorities who have done this successfully. Unless working in education and fully abreast of what this would mean in working practice it is difficult to make comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think you need to explain what 'devolved school resources' are. This seems like corporate jargon. The wording of the above statement is difficult to interpret. During covid technology was used as an essential tool in delivering education remotely when there was no other alternative. We should be under no illusion that it is an appropriate tool for engaging learners without the support of trained adults. Teachers, parents and learners are now quite disenfranchised with learning through technology, particularly in the absence of appropriate first level support to help resolve issues in accessing the learning. The council and government should be working together to invest in learning for those of school age. Why all the investment in ELCs if it means reducing the amount and quality of provision in the critical years of P1 - S6?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What does this actually mean? More and more parents are already supporting / supplementing their children's education with private tuition due to schools already being stretched. What provision will be made for neurodiverse pupils?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't and can't have children so i don't feel it's fair for me to comment on this question.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not able to comment as unaware of school resources	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More detail required on this to understand impact on all schools in West Lothian	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Further detail is needed on the impact of these proposals on ASN and pupil support staff who support those more in need of help at school or nursery. Reducing additional support to pupils will impact on outcomes and only seek to widen the attainment gap.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Devolved School Management/resources don't know what this is can't comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	jd	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More clarify is required on third party providers to be able to make comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not clued up sorry	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Proposal too vague.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This has no impact on me so I will refrain from commenting.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As before, without detailed information I don't see how I can comment on this other than to say that the language used here is pure gibberish. I would prefer that words like 'opportunity' weren't used when discussing cuts. They aren't opportunities, it is a situation we are forced not because the Tory Government believes in a small state and have driven councils and other services into the ground. Please be honest about this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No idea what this actually means.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I can't understand from the description what you are actually intending to do.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Don't know what this actually means, before I could respond I would need to ask for clarity on "changes to pupil support staffing arrangements "	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not able to answer with my full understanding of what this means for local schools and the value of £5m reduction and how this will impact them.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This gives no idea as to what you are going to do another bit of flannel	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You haven't really said what this will involve. Please elaborate	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Seems like all staff are being reduced.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Does this mean that additional support will no longer be available or reduced for those who need it? If so, this is a terrible idea and limits future opportunities for children.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, all words but doesn't mean anything.; The children need resources but not all children can use/access technology. Yes, teachers can use technology to deliver certain aspects of the curriculum, but we shouldn't be reliant on technology.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Proof that people need the help. Not just for everyone	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is a huge saving. Educational opportunities are crucial in any area. Can these savings bring about improved educational opportunities?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would like to know more about what these cost cuts would look like and about the provision provided by third party providers.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The cost provided with this change is very large. Will schools have suitably skilled staff to manage more complex budgeting?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Schools employ staff to manage their financial resources and these are supported by a small central team.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No strong views on this. Any purchasing activity could be reviewed to ensure that compliant contracts are used, along with any additional benefits that could be secured through compliant contracts.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Let teachers teach, carers care, etc and leave the management and support of that to others. There is not a one size fits all answer to schools and the curricula they deliver	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This will need careful analysis ...beyond my knowledge	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Preferable for future build but need to have audit system to review how school utilizing the fund . Need to have a check & balance system and responsibility accounting system .	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Presumably a “devolved school management” funding model will mean that decisions are made by people who have nothing to do with the schools they are making decisions for?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Devolved school management means that as many decisions as possible are made within the school.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as students still learn how to write on paper and not only digitally I am not entirely opposed to this. Also need to make sure that students get all the support that is required. Sometimes cost of reducing staff is not for the best of people who get the support. Currently I have a child in primary school, and I can't say I like that so much technology is used in their learning: for example, Microsoft Teams? We are talking about 8-year-olds and at this age and time all most kids do at home is phones, tablets and games on TV. Therefore, I am not particularly enthusiastic about this all-digitalised approach in school.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cannot really comment on this as we are now out of the schools system and its not fair to talk about changes we don't recognise. But always a supporter of identifying and pursuing efficiencies when they are suitable.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	????????????	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You say you want to provide a more efficient service delivery but how can do you know that these methods and technological assistance will maintain the curriculum delivery standard of a qualified teacher ? Or are you more interested in saving money than delivering a quality education to our children that we pay for and are constantly be forced to pay more and more and receive less for our tax money	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as kids who need additional support still have their needed support staff.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I believe that at the moment there is so many different ways to control your child progress and child education like parental portal, government getaway accounts, Microsoft teams, bookings for online meetings with teachers, which are 6 minutes and connection is weak, I believe from the school end, usually, didbook accounts. Ipayimpact, mygovscot etc. So many of them and very low quality as well...need just 1, I believe and it should be near to perfection	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The education system is in a bad way, it is all over the news, good luck with cutting any more	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Contract tendering and limiting contract overspends needs to take priority so that savings can be made without impacting the teaching methods.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupils will always need support especially after the trauma of the last 2 years re mental health	4. The council is already doing this.	Specific support for counselling and mental health has been increased using national and local resources,
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No truant officers in West Lothian I was advised by a teacher. More pressure on those educating our children	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Council has robust attendance policy which is kept under review with input from schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Covid lockdowns have had a huge detrimental affect on those moving to secondary and many pupils are struggling to move beyond level 2 curriculum without support. More in class support is required along with the provision of it where necessary. Those who do not attend school or who wander corridors all day should be fined.	4. The council is already doing this.	Each school put in place a COVID recovery plan and monitors and supports the progress of individual pupils. There is no legal basis on which the Council could impose fines.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The consideration of the demographic of a school, ensuring that those in more deprived areas have the same opportunities as those in affluent areas. Staff go above and beyond for the children they work with and it should not come out of their own pockets.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Significant additional resources including Pupil Equity Funding, Scottish Attainment Challenge and council funding streams reflect the demographics of catchment areas
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	New establishments that are state of the art, with excellent facilities etc, but what about some of the der establishments that need investment to ensure they keep up and that the educational experiences they provide include BGE including practical subjects, for which, some excellent above the more academic subjects.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council's capital programme provides funding to refurbish and where necessary extend existing schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is an issue with the re-allocation of funding from additional support for pupils to core staffing requirements. Children who need additional support need it for a reason and if they are just left in mainstream classes without that support there is a risk that no-one will learn anything as the teacher ends up spending all their time with the few rather than equipping the many. ; Using technology to deliver the curriculum sounds good but everyone learns in different ways so it wouldn't suit everyone and while it is good to have a wide curriculum the focus needs to be on delivery of the core curriculum to equip pupils for the world of work, not the world of university which isn't for everyone or just as a reason to keep pupils in schools past the school leaving age (which is still 16)	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council implements the national presumption of mainstream with appropriate support; extensive experience gained during the pandemic has improved use of technology including ensuring it is accessible to all pupils; support to progress to a positive education includes all positive destinations, not just higher education.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School staffing needs more "on the ground" teachers and support workers - there needs to be a review of the specialist provision (bases/more places) to help the many pupils with significant needs who are struggling in mainstream and whose support means that other pupils with lesser needs do not receive an equitable share.;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is establishing small group settings and nurture groups in schools to provide this support.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If we are now focussing on the presumption of mainstream and specialist places are few and far between, the council needs to invest in staff and resources for children with complex needs. Mainstream children are losing out on pupil support due to them being pulled to support these specific children. Pupil support is vital in helping to close the attainment gap which is already nigh on impossible. The treatment of pupil support workers is also shocking - stop the temporary contracts and offer them permanent jobs. Invest in pupil support! If more powers are devolved to head teachers then perhaps the heads of education should take a reduction in pay - how do we justify salaries of £100k a year?	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal does not reduce specific funding to support pupils with additional support needs. Pupil support workers benefit from the same good employment practices and policies as other employees of the Council.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Open up all schools for community use - cost of hire to be re-considered and competitive rates for local communities/customers.	4. The council is already doing this.	School lets are available. Community access to all council facilities is kept under review.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Foster links with employability services and opportunities	4. The council is already doing this.	Support is provided to pupils to progress to a positive destination in partnership with other agencies and also local employers.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The use of technology in schools requires improvement in infrastructure. The delays in accessing tech online due to devise speed and internet speed and connectivity impacts learning and cripples lesson. ; Supporting staff need a pay rise, especially APSW's. There jobs are far more intense than other mainstream support staff, and there skills should be indicated in a pay difference. ; Delivery and speed of services/allocations/decisions needs to be addressed.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Council has invested significantly in IT infrastructure in schools, Pupil Support Workers benefit from a nationally negotiated pay award, and jobs are graded in comparison with all other local authority jobs.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am not convinced that greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum is a cost-saver. I try not to use technology/apps in every lesson as there are equity issues with this: not all pupils have devices, some pupils don't have data, and the school WiFi which pupils have access to is not always reliable. I feel that the need for pupil support is likely to increase - already it feels as though there are not enough pupil support assistants to enable all pupils to access the curriculum and achieve their full potential.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Council has invested significantly in IT infrastructure in schools, and support to access on line resources at home.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School management are not financial experts so someone to oversee this is essential. The support staff- admin and pupil are the backbone of schools. These jobs need to be protected and valued	4. The council is already doing this.	Support is provide through Business Support Managers, Resources Officers and the Financial Management Unit.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School closures during covid showed how vital face to face contact is for pupils. It is essential that this is not reduced for the sake of both pupil progress and for their mental wellbeing. Extra pressure should not be place on teachers to deliver both digital and face to face courses.	4. The council is already doing this.	There will continue to be an appropriate mix of face to face and digital learning to support young people but also to prepare them adequately for the digital world
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Utilising resources that are targeted in terms of provision, fair and support equity across the curriculum and schools is essential with this proposal	4. The council is already doing this.	Resources will continue to be allocated according to a fair and equitable scheme of devolved school management.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not everyone one has broadband and home computers or a home space for study.; Centralised procurement would help with benefits if bulk purchases.; Class sizes already at breaking point, so staff reductions will impact. Use of teaching assistants will not help core teaching requirements and are not a substitute for teachers.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Council has invested significantly in IT infrastructure in schools, and support to access on line resources at home, including supply of hardware where appropriate. Class sizes are within nationally agreed norms. Schools will continue to employ an appropriate mix of teaching and support staff within their budgets.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is so important in schools to help pupils to access the curriculum when children with additional support needs are placed within a mainstream class not only is it support to the pupils but teachers too	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If individual schools worked together rather than as a single unit with it's own budget they would get far better deals. It seems like each school works as if it is a single unit rather than being part of a larger service.	4. The council is already doing this.	Schools benefit from being part of the Council's overall purchasing and procurement arrangements.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Must include consultation with school staff.	4. The council is already doing this.	This survey is available to school staff.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is essential for those with learning disabilities any reduction will have life long consequences.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technology and less; 1-1 which is desperately needed. Sounds like working through another COVID	4. The council is already doing this.	There will continue to be an appropriate mix of face to face and digital learning to support young people but also to prepare them adequately for the digital world
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As long as virtual learning isn't heavily relied on, it doesn't seem like an efficient method for teaching	4. The council is already doing this.	There will continue to be an appropriate mix of face to face and digital learning to support young people but also to prepare them adequately for the digital world
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need funding, but school transport should be looked at .	4. The council is already doing this.	School transport is the subject of a separate question.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools could not run effectively without admin or support staff. These members of staff are the ones who keep the schools going!	4. The council is already doing this.	Schools receive an allocation for admin and support staff in the scheme of devolved school management
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Providing additional support requires specific skills and resources. While it is ideal that core staff is equipped with such knowledge, they are already working at full capacity. By doing so, it needs to be considered carefully whether this is done in the expenses of less attention being offered to other children in the class. What about the core staff well-being?	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council works within the national presumption of mainstream, nationally set class sizes and national quality standards.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Whilst there is a role to utilise technology to support learning this should not come at the expense of employing in class teachers . Teachers should not be expected as a matter of course to live stream lessons to other children (virtual campus) whilst they teach in person. Teachers should be employed to deliver the curriculum within those schools if it is a priority to deliver a breadth of curriculum. Ensuring parity of IT resourcing across schools in the authority should also be a priority as some schools lag behind in this area.	4. The council is already doing this.	There will continue to be an appropriate mix of face to face and digital learning to support young people but also to prepare them adequately for the digital world
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I believe it is incredibly important that additional support staff are used for precisely that. The cuts to in class support continue to make the job of a teacher more difficult than ever. Having staff who know pupils based within a school continues to aid and benefit those with the most complex needs.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council works within the national presumption of mainstream, nationally set class sizes and national quality standards.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Anything that involves reducing any school staffing would be a huge mistake for any local authority. Retaining and employing school teachers and support staff are vital and should be a top of the list priority for funding!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Save money by closing small schools and look at your catchment areas.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Also do not employ Admin staff who do not know the systems used in a school office! Experienced Admin Assistants end up supporting new starts with every aspect of the job. The BSM and ROs are nowhere to be seen and have been known to say "I don't know how to use the systems used at the school office so if you wouldn't mind just popping in to ***** Primary School and showing ***** how to use the systems". Surely this is their job to offer support!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education is a priority	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools should consider how their facilities/estates could be used out of hours for social enterprises and businesses to deliver to customers. This could generate a rental type income to supplement schools. E.g use of school grounds/gyms for after school sports clubs etc.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Look at other costs - catering, cleaning etc.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Controlling staff absence should be a priority. Perhaps the sick pay policy is too generous. But all schools are impacted by long and short term staff absences. No one seems to do anything about it.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Allowing individual head teachers to make their own decisions sounds risky. Better to make funding decisions at a council-wide level so all schools are equal	4. The council is already doing this.	Headteachers are budget managers
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Less CPD but more online and evidence based.	4. The council is already doing this.	Most of CPD on line.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ensure pupils not digitally connected are not disadvantaged	4. The council is already doing this.	Access to digital devices /internet for disadvantaged pupils being progressed
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology is already used to deliver the curriculum.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a Teacher in WLC Digital learning is no substitute for in person actual learning from professional teachers and should be avoided as much as possible. Digital learning requires students to have Digital devices to a suitable standard which may reduce WLC costs in one area but you are going to have to subsidise this in other ways probably through school budgets. Councils like the Borders region have spent vast amounts on money giving out I-pads to all their students but these cannot be used for every lesson.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's well-established Anytime, Anywhere Learning Strategy affords the opportunity for children from P5 upwards to bring devices to school. Schools ensure all pupils have access to devices.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Also the council need to seriously update technology available in schools so that our children can compete in the world.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's well-established Anytime, Anywhere Learning Strategy affords the opportunity for children from P5 upwards to bring devices to school. Schools ensure all pupils have access to devices.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools service delivery needs to be a top priority. Education for young people has been in turmoil for some time particularly in light of Covid19. Going forward we need to have motivated staff and positive outcomes for young people in WL.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You need to invest in education as opposed to making cuts. Presumption of mainstream has been and will continue to fail our children while the schools have no budget to think creatively. A large number of children are currently not being educated at all because school cannot make their environment fit the children. Falkirk has enhanced provisions. How about bringing back something like that?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Many schools are already struggling to provide the relevant support to their pupils in school on a limited budget, particularly for those pupils with additional support needs. I think giving schools more autonomy over how they spend their budget is good, but some schools have a much higher level of need than others so care will need to be taken to make sure this is equitable for all	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Will this take into account more support for children who need particular help? For example, I am aware that where children have a special need (autism, dyslexia and such), some schools in West Lothian have a really good team and support network, but some other schools do not. Will this be considered?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What proposals are you talking about with the devolved school management model.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Emphasis should be on contracted suppliers for resources, we should streamline available suppliers to ensure good value and market efficiencies.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There's a danger with this approach that the school will only be as good as it's head teacher if more things are devolved. There needs to be consistency across WL schools	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The schools deliver virtually all school learning through technology as it is. The days of books are gone in schools	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	put a stop to schools, spending the remainder of their budgets on none, essentials at the end of financial year.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a school we are proud of the developments we have made, using a flexible approach to technology. Our pupils use their own devices in most classrooms, mainly because we have no other choice, however, it is an unfair model especially on the leaders who are struggling to drive forward a Anytime, Anywhere learning vision with O365 at the heart - but without the resources.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Linlithgow Academy is in a terrible state while nearly all other schools in the district have been upgraded or rebuilt. This needs addressed, the building & facilities are atrocious.	4. The council is already doing this.	The has been capital investment at Linlithgow Academy - new sports hall, refurbished HE rooms, science room and assembly hall .
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As someone who pays in though my council charge but has never had any children, I DEMAND that the priority is that every child leaves school being able to read, write and count. Make sure that message is clear to all teaching staff. For any child leaving without these skills, the Education Dept has failed. After that, then there should be a scale of whats next, I'll leave that to the teachers to decide the priority, as they should know best. And should also be targeting the best for that individual child, not how many of x qualifications have been achived at the school.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ensure that school staff come on board with changes as they seem to be overloaded at moment	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	House builders need to contribute to building and the provision of school in areas where there is no capacity for students - devolved school management could create a division in more affluent areas	4. The council is already doing this.	S75 agreements are in place for developments to contribute to school infrastructure.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Effective use of technology is always promoted and a priority within school curriculum, however, within areas of socio-economic deprivation this can fall down, despite being provided with the necessary tools. This needs to be carefully considered about parental expectation and engagement, which can be a real challenge.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In Education this relies on families having access to the internet and to IT equipment. It is proving a struggle to engage pupils and families online after school hours already	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Engaging with all school staff would help highlight areas THEY feel need improving...	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	teacher jobs is an area close to me a a probationary teacher as there is already a lack of jobs with many teachers having to retrain and find alternative posts.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Devolved school management is the key. I worked in schools in England where that was done and surprised not done in Scotland	4. The council is already doing this.	Schools in Scotland do have devolved school management but maybe you mean schools run with a Board of Governors.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is a need for new nurserys, schools and high schools in west lothian. The population is growing.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	West Lothian should adopt a principle of educating all children who live in West Lothian including returning children who are currently educated out with the local authority by private providers. The only exception to this would be if the child is violent and too much of a challenge to the service, but this should be the exception.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Look again at staffing as we have schools being forced to take nursery staff when the demand is not there thus using up a head teachers budget in an inefficient manner	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The vat increment on resources I hope returns to the relevant school. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	School purchases /invoices less VAT
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Head teachers budgets should not include building upgrades that is stealing from education resources. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	Property budgets not within schools
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third parties do understand what is exactly required within the school support system. Schools should have greater say in how they allocate support to pupils and have the gumption to remove pupil support who are not efficient take too much time off as they are on temporary contracts.	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal is not specifically about pupil support or staff absence.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This proposal concerns some greatly. I understand the value of skill mix and external experts delivering some services however I believe there have been dubious choices made previously in this area. I believe Head Teachers are best placed to effectively deploy resources within a school as not all schools are equal in need. I think the Councils role financially is to allocate monies and ensure it is used to best impact through a robust governance framework. Therefore the suitability of this proposal is best assessed, imho, by those who actually deliver the service and those whose children use it.	4. The council is already doing this.	The large bulk of resources are deployed by Headteachers under the scheme of devolved school management.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	See previous comments on working smarter. Staff at all levels should be included/consulted in proposals to ensure valuable insight from those working in the roles is not missed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The consultation is open to staff.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am very concerned that "Technology to deliver the curriculum" means pupils will not have a qualified teacher to deliver the curriculum.	4. The council is already doing this.	All pupils will be taught by qualified teacher.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	more cost effective to use teaching staff experienced on both sides of the subject if specialised courses were provided by a set of school and offer to take students from other schools	4. The council is already doing this.	This is the Campus model, already in operation
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is more cost effective to use existing teaching staff to deliver both parts of the curriculum - theory and practical. If schools offered specialised specific courses these could be opened up to other schools. Not every school offering the specific course - have some schools being the champion in specific courses	4. The council is already doing this.	This is the Campus model, already in operation
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	it would be more cost effective if schools be used for specific courses which could also mean more students could take part	4. The council is already doing this.	This is the Campus model, already in operation
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	more cost effective to use teaching to staff in both fields of work. if schools offer specialised courses they can be opened up to other schools.	4. The council is already doing this.	This is the Campus model, already in operation
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	more cost effective to use teaching staff to deliver specific courses. ; ; have one school have a specific course thats open to other schools to save from doing it at multiple and saving resorces.	4. The council is already doing this.	This is the Campus model, already in operation
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	more cost effective to use teaching staff or schools offered specialised courses and pupils from other schools attended the specialised courses.	4. The council is already doing this.	This is the Campus model, already in operation
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	more cost effective to use teaching staff experienced on both sides of the subject. if specialised course were provided by a set school and offer to take in students from other schools.	4. The council is already doing this.	This is the Campus model, already in operation
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More cost effective to use teaching staff experienced in both sides of the subject	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council uses staff experienced in their subjects.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support needs to stay and need yo be a break out space in every school for kids with ASD / ASN / anxiety or if they need a break .;	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal will not impact on ASN provision.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School resources are important for children to receive a high level of education. That could be Human Resources or physical resources such as items being bought for the school day, outings that widen the children's experiences, staff who enable and support children with ASN that also allows other children to not have their learning interrupted.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School staffing is important in my opinion. i think it would be good to have more staff in schools, especially to help and support pupils that have learning difficulties such as dyslexia, and those with behaviour problems too. I don't think there is enough support of this kind in schools in my experience and lots of pupils leave school feeling they haven't achieved as well as they could have and lack in confidence	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal will not impact on ASN provision.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Devolvement is not always best. Central supply/buying can gain greater cost savings due to order sizes. Not every pupil is online or has computers available.;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council uses central purchasing and supports pupils access appropriate devices and online services
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	would this have a big impact on children from more deprived areas ?	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council devotes significant resources to closing the socio-economic attainment gap.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support staff are some of the most important staff in the school for those who have learning difficulties, those who struggle to/cannot go to class. If there are staff cuts here many of these pupils may not come to class or could in turn disrupt others learning ; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Support teachers cannot be reduced as for some students that is how they get through their day. Some pupils are not able to go to class due to mental health issues, and that is where the support teachers help. They are vital for our schools to run, and they cannot be cut	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council has invested in counselling and mental health support services.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not all children are able to academically prove what they have learnt, but could practically show you what they have learnt - how would they do this if it was only via tech.; How do writing skills improve if using digital platforms all the time in school? (eg, using tablets etc)	4. The council is already doing this.	Technology is used to support, not replace, existing forms of learning and teaching.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology to delivery the curriculum is not effective - current arrangements for virtual learning in the senior phase are unmanageable and problematic - the best learning takes place when students are in front of a subject specialist teacher. We need more support staff rather than fewer - we are currently seeing the impact of covid on the social and emotional skills of pupils and this may get worse over the next few years. Students in many classes already do not have adequate support.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is already making effective use of digital learning, building on the experience gained during the pandemic.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I'm also concerned about "third party providers" - as a parent I expect the best for my children and that should not fall short of a qualified teaching staff! I send them to school for education and not childcare (the two are very different things).	4. The council is already doing this.	All pupils will continue to be taught by qualified .teachers,
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This needs to be carefully planned so that schools are not left with inadequate support staff and therefore attainment is impacted.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I firmly believe that a Head Teacher of a school is the most appropriate person to make decisions of how to support the needs of the children in her care. Schools at the moment are not overstaffed so to imagine that removing staff will make them run more efficiently is strange to say the least. School should be given more resources to provide the best possible education for children rather than having resources cut. I would like to hear more about the use of technology to deliver the curriculum - until it is explain what it is and how it will work no judgement can be made on whether it is a good idea or not.	4. The council is already doing this.	Headteachers have significant delegated decision making authority.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am also the mother of a teenage daughter who has depression and anorexia. She attends a mainstream school in West Lothian and she struggles to find support staff in her school when she needs them. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am a teacher in a special needs school and we are currently facing a staffing crisis. The young people I work with require specialist care and support for the medical, therapy and personal needs. Without the hard work of our support staff the school would not run safely and we would fail the pupils in our care. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I have limited experience in this. Personally, I have liaised with schools for my own children and find that by establishing a positive working relationship, pupil's needs can be addressed. I do feel there is a lack of support currently for supporting pupils with their mental health, which impacts on their attendance and learning.; How many Play Therapists does the local authority employ? Children need this to work through any trauma and other adversities, before being able to fully apply themselves to their learning. (In my opinion)	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There has to be a focus on children with additional support needs to ensure they continue to get the support they require.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council will continue to meet its statutory obligations to meet the needs of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sharing between schools of provision and staff etc may assist, as well as clearer transparency around delivery of ASN in schools, and where necessary showcasing that in mainstream provision to support families and encourage less preference of special schools. In the expectation that this delivers a cost saving. Ensuring teachers are clear about their responsibilities and roles in terms of delivering budgets and the Education Authorities priorities in WL.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children pick up technology so quickly - please ensure that teachers and school staff are trained appropriately.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is not a solution. Using resources for additional supports in schools to meet core requirements will have serious unintended consequences in other areas causing increased investment being required to meet needs of our most vulnerable children. A more measured approach to allocations to schools being focussed on Pupil needs would see a significant increase in attainment and achievement. Provide robust training to all teachers and support staff to allow them to feel confident in managing behaviours that challenge. Please ensure when making decisions around attainment that you consider the attainment and achievement of our most vulnerable pupils to.	4. The council is already doing this.	Budget allocation reflects socioeconomic need; the attainment strategy focuses on closing the socio-economic attainment gap; robust staff development is provided, and staff can suggest topics to be covered.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There already is a lack of Pupil Support Workers within West Lothian to adequately meet the needs of all learners in mainstream schools. Any reduction in staffing numbers would ultimately impact attainment and jeopardise getting it right for every child.	4. The council is already doing this.	Raising attainment and GIRFEC remain priorities for all schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	While technology can be helpful for children in educational settings, it should be put in place for that reason alone, NOT simply as a money saver. Any new introduction of technology to replace staffing in place to support children should be piloted and impact assessed to show proven benefits in reaching the Council's commitment to GIRFEC before being rolled out across the board as a money saver. ; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is using technology appropriately and effectively in the classroom to support learning and teaching.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil Support services simply cannot be cut any further. As a parent of an Autistic teen in mainstream school it is imperative that these support services are not cut any further. There is nothing in place sufficient for those children who are not eligible for a SEN placement but find mainstream very challenging. The schools are doing their best but already are so stretched and are unable to provide support that is required.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council remains committed to its statutory duty to meet the needs of every child.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support is vital for any school to run smoothly. Since the pandemic pupil support is even more in demand from highly anxious pupils or parents needing many different types of support. I work as part of the pastoral care team in a secondary school and our work load and demand has quadrupled since the pandemic. Our day consists of constant phone calls from parents very concerned about their children's mental health and also their own. I have a constant queue at the door of pupils who are all needing attention for many different reasons. We cannot keep up with the demand for counselling sessions in a school day. Also the need for support for learning is desperate due to the pupils being home schooled. We need more staff in pupil support not staff cuts. Staff cuts in this department would be devastating for the mental health of many pupils and could even be catastrophic.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council has invested in counselling and mental health support.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This seems like a disproportionate saving to be made. I don't see how additional support can be offered with less money. Support for learning budgets have been cut already over this past decade, and yet needs are rising. Mental health, parenting, pandemic etc have resulted in children who need more support, not less.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council has invested in counselling and mental health support.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We MUST ensure that the individual child is at the forefront and that the people who work closest with them are consulted. There is no point in someone deciding outcomes who does not know the child/family or circumstances. Paperwork for parents and practitioners should be made simpler and less time consuming.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is committed to GIRFEC, and minimising the bureaucratic burden.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Using technology in the classroom is a great idea in theory but never in practise. The AAL approach is not cost effective. The range of devices that children bring is vast and teacher's often don't have the expertise to troubleshoot all types of devices. There are issues with logging in on some devices. Not all children have the same software/apps on their phone so again troubleshooting with devices takes time away from the actual lesson. Plus you have the everyday running of devices especially charging devices.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is supporting access by all pupils to digital resources through appropriate technology.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	education properly funded ensures the next generation can be good citizens	4. The council is already doing this.	Creating good citizens is one of the aims of curriculum for excellence.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are struggling to afford technology and maintain and improve their stock so I'm unsure how greater use of technology would implement savings as investment would be needed first. The Capital Refresh Funding is so low now and will stop in the next couple of years.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is supporting access by all pupils to digital resources through appropriate technology.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Are the 3rd party providers vetted sufficiently to ensure they do actually provide the best value for money when purchasing resources especially if those resources cannot be bought from procurement suppliers?	4. The council is already doing this.	All suppliers of goods and services are measured against the best value framework.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Digital learning is watered down. No research out there to the contrary. What about the poverty rerated attainment gap? This will have a huge impact on this. Headteachers should have more autonomy and less top down approach from the centre. This would save money.	4. The council is already doing this.	Headteachers have control of devolved budgets with which to meet the needs of their pupils in line with the 'empowering schools' agenda.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Concerned that young people if using technology will arrive at school with devices uncharged. Given current cost of living crisis it all adds up to charge numerous devices at home.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Schools will support pupils to use technology effectively and appropriately.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There is a lot of children who need support with school due to Mental Health issues. After lockdown they need help and support to deal with anxiety and depression.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has identified funding for counselling and mental health support..
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	the service provision that could be continued needs to be at the very least of the same standard as we have now, if not better.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. This is the intention of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	"Devolved School Management funding model" sounds remarkably similar to the PPP taken on by Edinburgh Council several years ago which resulted in something as simple as a lightbulb change being carried out by an external company at a grossly inflated price.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Devolved school management is not the same as PPP.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staffing in schools is vital, particularly support staff. Rather than cutting staff in schools, more savings should be made by cutting higher salaries council management.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The consultation contains specific proposals to reduce management.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	; There are many different, but related, support services for supporting education, each with their own management structure. If these were all part of the same team the management structure could be streamlined and the service delivery would be more efficient. As a teacher in West Lothian, it can be difficult to know what support is available from the center and which service is the most appropriate for the need.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The consultation contains specific proposals to reduce management.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum would require adequate IT resources in all schools.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is vital that the council consults teachers and other school staff and key stakeholders in this regard, and that their input forms the major decision making considerations, these people are the experts and they know best what is needed in our schools and education facilities. Council management and quite frankly 'pen pushers' should not be making these decisions lightly or without input from those who will feel the impact most.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The consultation is open to teacher, school staff and other stakeholders.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We do not have enough technology in schools as it is to deliver more of the curriculum digitally.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has invested in providing technology and supporting access to technology at home.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technology for curriculum provision - part of this would surely entail each pupil having a device which is certainly not the case at present.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has invested in providing technology and supporting access to technology at home.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The council must ensure additional support pupils are provided for with specialist resources and placements	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Pupils with ASN will be supported to benefit from the presumption of mainstream wherever possible, with appropriate support.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Consider perhaps reducing unnecessary management structures and performative posts being created but then absorbed into school programmes to compensate for staffing shortages and thus minimising impact on attainment. ; ; How much did the talking bins cost?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The consultation contains specific proposals to reduce management.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I worked in a secondary school and when budgets were not used up there was a rush to spend at end of financial year and lots of unneeded items bought so needs to be more control of what is actually needed	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Proposals in the consultation are informed by an analysis of current patterns of expenditure including carry-forwards.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	; Staff is needed to ensure children are not falling through the net from disadvantaged families how do you staff breakfast club, free lunches, teach, support, mental health care, social care clean clothes, tooth brushes etc.; School is not just education anymore .	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Stop the culture of schools spending all of there budget for fear of not getting the same amount next year. Return the unspent money back to central budgets. Also specialist PE teachers cost when class teachers are trained to provide PE. They are a number of additional "active" services provided by teachers that again can be done in house by schools.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Proposals in the consultation are informed by an analysis of current patterns of expenditure including carry-forwards.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupils should always come first, giving every child opportunities to improve their situation and prospects.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a parent council, the lenses we're using across our responses are equity and inclusion, mental health and wellbeing, teaching and learning. We raise the fact that this generation of young people have faced extremely challenging years and applaud all efforts the schools and local authority have made to prioritise mental health and wellbeing in the months since lockdown.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We have not been able to locate a Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment in relation to; this proposal, and request that one is carried out in order that impacts are highlighted and; mitigated.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council will conduct integrated impact assessments on all proposals agreed for implementation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional resources to suppprt education is a positive, we must invest in young peoples education recognition should be given that not all are naturally academic or have the financial assistance of parents and carers or in some cases the support of.parents and carers to encourage them to steive for success	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Provision by third party providers should only be considered if there is not the required skill set within existing council workforce, and after the reason for this has been evidenced.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Have Heads and pupil support staff been consulted? I work in a school and have not heard about this so am doubtful this has been well communicated.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The consultation is open to headteachers and pupil support staff.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Anecdotally, there does seem to be a disparity between schools in terms of the allocation of a range of resources (e.g. one secondary having a handful of Pupil Support Workers and another having more than twenty, despite there being a significant need in the former school), so some review of resourcing would be welcome.; ; However, any notion that PSWs should not be allocated on a permanent basis to a particular school should be vehemently rejected, as learners benefit immensely from the relationships formed with these staff.; ; I am not aware of any surplus in my own school, in terms of administrative or other support staff, with such staff always being busy.;; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Headteachers have delegated authority to decide the best mix of staffing to meet the needs of their pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Provide proper education to all children	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Devolved resources should operate within a core framework and infrastructure.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Using technology to deliver the curriculum only works when pupils and staff have access to appropriate resources. For example, WiFi fit for purpose, pupils with access to appropriate devices. Staff given resources to deliver via technology. Many pupils only have a phone, which is no use for using Teams, writing essays, accessing other resources. Schools which are "all digital" have issues with pupils losing / damaging laptops, and with theft. Parents being expected to provide laptops / replace laptops is not sustainable. See previous comment on PECOS.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has invested in providing technology and supporting access to technology at home.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If further use of technology is going to be used to deliver education then there needs to be a large investment in the technology available within schools and for use by school aged young people. The resources currently available are not fit for purpose.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has invested in providing technology and supporting access to technology at home.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools at the moment are not operating to their full potential at all. It is not meeting the needs of the young people who are using them. It meets some of their needs but not holistically. There are too many young people, who require additional support to access education and are unable to have this support.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Pupils with ASN are supported to ensure they benefit from the presumption of mainstream wherever possible.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children with additional learning needs such as ADHD/ ASD do not have adequate support/ understanding while in mainstream school. There is lack of training on how to best work with these students. As such these children then are isolated and this then puts more strain onto social policy- children and families.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Pupils with ASN are supported to ensure they benefit from the presumption of mainstream wherever possible.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools require more technology	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council has invested in providing appropriate technology for use in school and at home, and in supporting pupils access to technology.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	need to weed out staff who do not perform there duties or who do not complete there shifts ie go home then come back then go home early. more control on how school budgets are spent lots of money spent at the end of the year no nothing its like a free for all in the schools.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Proposals in the consultation are informed by an analysis of current patterns of expenditure including carry-forwards. Managmeent arrangements are in place to monitor staff performance.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need to be staffed correctly and all pupils should be given access to appropriate levels of support. All schools should be financed correctly and allocated resources for all.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. This is the intention of the proposal. Class sizes and supervision ratios will be maintained.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Individual schools should have the autonomy to spend budgets the way they see fit, not be hemmed in by budgets that have been stipulated to be spent in certain ways. Of course schools should be accountable for the way in which they spend the money but surely they know what's best for their learners?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Devolved school management means that as many decisions as possible are made within the school. Ring fencing, where it exists, is largely the result of Scottish Government initiatives.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	PSWs are the most valuable 'resource' a school can have and you should recognise that value with permanent contracts, fair pay and training to develop and upskill them to cope with the huge expectations placed upon them. Many are working with young people with huge challenges and needs, due to the lack of funding and places in specialist provision.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. PSW posts have been assessed using the national job evaluation tool, and PSWs benefit from Council employment policies and practices.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Improve technology within schools. Layers of management in school.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Try using pre-recorded tutorials or online live sessions that can be shared between different schools at the same time. perhaps music lessons online etc?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. These options can be considered as part of the virtual campus and the revised model of instrumental music provision.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Use what you learned during Covid - enhance the good and review what didn't go so well and why	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum.; I am for children being given all possible opportunities to access the curriculum through technology and develop their skills as they do so. This said, the number of devices currently available to use by children in primary schooling doesn't match the number of children in classes. There has been reference to bringing children's own devices in order to alleviate this issue. A reliance on devices being brought in by children this will be pejorative for families who do not have financial means to buy technology. This will further disadvantage children who already experience barriers to their learning associated with financial deprivation. Furthermore, our current method for tracking progress through technology is often online jotters on Teams. These are not an effective way of showing long-term progress through schooling as they are deleted when the child moves to a new Team. Not all staff are confident to deliver teaching and learning through digital means as we often have visitors to our class and school to see ways we deliver the curriculum digitally. We would need to invest time into doing so prior to relying on this as a means for developing and delivering the curriculum.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has invested in providing technology and supporting access to technology at home.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Changes to administrative staffing arrangements;; The current administrative burden on teachers is high. The core admin for a teacher is that; they are expected to complete registers on Seemis at the start of the school day and after lunch break, complete and check lunches on iPay, to hand out the correct number of lunch bands to the correct children, to complete evolv for any excursion and risk assessments, complete wellbeing surveys for their children and upload these online, ensure that all monitoring and tracking is completed and up to date online for all children in their classes, handout letters for every event or trip to the correct children or families, look up usernames and reset passwords for children on Active Directory Users and Computers, Glow and third party providers such as Sumdog. Should there any children present additional needs within the classroom it is highly likely that a teacher will need to complete regular paperwork needing response for medical professionals and other outside agencies, other types of paperwork if a child's wellbeing is compromised and track these needs long term. Should any incidents occur within the school a teacher is also expected to record these on Sphera. This list is not exhaustive. With this taken into consideration a further reduction in administrative staff would lead to a greater burden being placed on teaching staff with a reduction in their ability to perform their teaching role.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Reducing the administrative burden on staff and ensuring that tasks are carried out by the correct staff in partnership with the professional associations is a priority for the Council.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Will more up to date technology be provided to be able to use it? Where I work, the laptops barely work and we only have 4 ipads in our class.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has invested in providing technology and supporting access to technology at home.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Would actually really just like you to be transparent in fixing and re opening knightsridge primary, pay your teachers more so they won't strike causing disruption to learning further than covid already did and screwing working parents who need to find childcare cause of this. Considering how childrens learning has been affected due to covid you may want to look at actually funding the education instead of saving and taking away. I have seen the affects in my own children and also the young people who were doing exams during covid who are now on training programmes to gain skills because of their low skill set from school.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately, as the consultation seeks to explain, the council must cut expenditure, not increase it. The future of Knightsridge Primary School will not be impacted by this proposal. Teachers pay is set nationally, not by West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Already dual remit of some schools support and administrative staff. More of this could work although classroom support is very important, hopefully not much compromise of these given hours.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Headteachers have devolved control of budgets and can introduce these arrangements where beneficial.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School resources need to be focused on actual education, not on excessive force of woke ideas.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More up to date technology will give children more opportunity to learn better.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council has an established programme of investment in IIT devices and infrastructure, and the effective use of technology in the classroom.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The schools still need to have enough staff to support the pupils in class.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council will continue to meet national class size limits and supervision ratios.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Having the most up to date technology is good for the children however they will still need to have the support of teachers.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support staff dont get paid enough, I am familiar with this role.; Working in additional needs schools , I used my qualifications in social care and this is transferable. The rate of pay should be the same as residential child care staff and maybe people could work across the board in all social care/educational settings . ; Alot of pupil support staff can't afford to remain in their roles due to dwp work conditionality , made to find better paid jobs .	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. PSW posts have been assessed using the national job evaluation tool, and PSWs benefit from Council employment policies and practices.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Give them a rise .	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment School based staff will benefit from nationally agreed pay rises.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Too many one to one staff for (children with behavioural issues (in main steam schools ie high schools	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council provides resources to support pupils with ASN in mainstream schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is important to ensure educational technology remains invested in to ensure children's education is up to date, modern and ensures children are equipped with skills to compete equally with other education systems.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council has an established programme of investment in IIT devices and infrastructure, and the effective use of technology in the classroom.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools should get funding to help single parent s or low in cone family's on uc or have health issues could get help with equipment at hone they need such as eg Internet laptop as all info is given in emails we do t all have money for these things scheme should be set up thanks	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has invested in providing technology and supporting access to technology at home.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Efficiency reviews should not affect the quality of education provided.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. This is the intention.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Core staffing requirements are what matters.; Our school, Uphall Primary is excellent, please keep it up. Thank you.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are a number of ASN schools that have been extended or completed recently. More needs to be done to strenghten core education values such as literacy and numeracy which is evidently lacking in recent years.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Yes, before we had a system one fits all, now we've got a shift and children with less focus can have more progress in school. Hope will stay this way and improve even so that future generations will have a better chance to thrive than we had.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Why not teach kids life skills in school! Teach them about savings, running houses, how to budget, how to do a weekly shop. Nat5 maths is Getting no one anywhere. No one uses it. Teach kids about discrimination, racism! Knowledge is power! Give them access to more clubs, training courses. How to be contributing citizens! Too many kids are sitting on their phones all day learning morning! Ban phones in classrooms to get their full attention! Early intervention is key! They are so impressionable! Teach them early, educate them early! Earn their trust! Kids need more structure in their learning! They are bored in school your teachers don't have a clue how to deal with them and worker pander to them or speak to them like it's a prison camp. Start learning trades in school , apprenticeships. Teach them about babies and how hard it is! Send them home with the practise babies do they see how much of a commitment being a parent is! Honestly you need to apply common sense here! Instead of drumming into them about she/ her and binary! That's not life!!!! That's other peoples choices!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, although these suggestions do not relate directly to the proposal.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am in favour of more local control.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is the money being saved by cutting more essential services that all schools require more now than ever given the increase in mental health issues in children on top of trying to integrate children with additional needs in mainstream schooling without adequate resources to support both them and the other pupils who because of the needs of others are often not given the one to one teaching they need	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has identified funding for counselling and mental health support and for meeting the needs of pupils with ASN.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The children need to have a good standard of education from teacher and support staff as well as up to the minute technology.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Headteachers have devolved budgets with which to meet the needs of their pupils with an appropriate balance of staff.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More full-time teachers instead of 'Support staff". Sometimes the needs of the few are outweighing the needs of the many.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Headteachers have devolved budgets with which to meet the needs of their pupils with an appropriate balance of staff.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools need to have ring fenced funding to ensure that there are adequate teaching to manage and educate all children in the class. ; This should include extra resources and support for children in mainstream classes who have additional educational needs. This should be a priority if the scottish government truly wants to close the attainment gap. Again 3rd party .not needed ; Pay more to teachers who do a great job	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Teaching staff will benefit from the national pay award.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional support for pupils must stay. Teachers and school staff are still supporting kids through the aftermath of the pandemic and removing additional support will have a catastrophic effect on staff and pupil wellbeing. Do not remove anything to support pupils and staff- if anything, they should be getting more, not less!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional Supports Needs provision needs be staffed adequately to meet their needs effectively and reduce anxiety for them and their parents.; ; Schools like Cedarbank and Beatlie and Pinewood do an amazing job and need to have good staff and enough of them to meet the needs of young people	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please do not reduced staffing in ASN schools. Fighting to get into a school is tough enough. Please don't then change what is good. Staff in Cedarbank are amazing and always listen and change things for my son. Don't reduce staff numbers please	4. The council is already doing this.	There is no proposal to reduce services for ASN pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	At present we do not have the devices in our schools to deliver the curriculum through technology. We have a situation where pupils are asked to bring their own devices to school. The range of devices is poor, from old phones with small screens, devices with little memory etc.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council continues to invest in ensuring pupils have access to appropriate technology including devices and connectivity.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Essential that the relevant trade unions are fully involved in the process.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	the school needs more say on how they spend their money and all the services. the school and teachers are hands on they know the pupils better	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The large majority of education funds are devolved to schools, with Headteachers having delegated authority to spend them as they see fit to best meet the needs of learners.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think the equity fund should be brought back and should be allocated to children that need it but also school and council have to prove where money is going to make sure that child that needs it get it. more people support workers playground assistants.	4. The council is already doing this.	Pupil equity funding is allocated based on need, and the allocation and expenditure is monitored and reported to Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	need extra people support IAP programmes each school can delegate to their own needs could be a good idea	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The large majority of education funds are devolved to schools, with Headteachers having delegated authority to spend them as they see fit to best meet the needs of learners.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Having to use peacos is very expensive as opposed to amazon	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The provision of religious schools in West Lothian is out of date and costly. My view is that a significant saving could be made by phasing out this old fashioned educational model. For example, in Winchburgh we have 2 new secondary schools which means 2 head teachers, 2 (or more) deputy heads and duplications of other staff and resources. Apart from the cost of this duplication the separation of children based on their religion is no longer appropriate in 2022.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The provision of both denominational and non-denominational schools is governed by legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Looking at the 1140hrs model for ELC and how drastic savings can be made across the Authority.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	1140 hours mandatory for the council to provide.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Being back proper mainstream and have special needs schools, this would save a lot of money. This will increase life quality for people. Why struggle in mainstream when can shine in special needs school? I have disabled family so this is close to me	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cut all spending on Gaelic.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Get rid of the religious school system. If people want religion they can go to churches. Having two streams of schools is massively wasteful.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We spend far too much money trying to achieve unachievable targets. Technology is no good if you don't have the wherewithal to use it at home. We have pandered to teachers too much since the Mccrone report and it's time to go back to basics. More class time and opportunity for teachers to teach. You can't rely on parents to share the SG's ideals and to replace teachers in the process.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think the allocation of PEF needs to be reviewed. Some schools have huge PEF allocations and are known to spend it on resources which are perhaps not vital or immediately required in order not to lose allocation in future while other schools are finding it difficult to ensure basic resources are available due to a lack of funding. Would it not be better to allow the schools who feel they do have excess money to contribute to this to a cluster pot so those with less PEF could make use of it?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	PEF allocations determined by Scottish Government with strict reporting requirements on spend and impact of spend in schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is I find a strange one where everything is sourced through picos thus not ensuring best price practice. ;	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Council standing orders requires use of PECOS to comply with Procurement legislation
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Do away with denominational schools, school is about education not religion!!! All religions get taught so children have choices and not indoctrination.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Lets have a look at the procurement system which is used by West Lothian Council. When making any type of purchase we are at liberty to do this vis Pecos which is a subsidiary of Ecommerce who generate trillions of pounds world wide for its owners annually.; I have been given permission to make purchases of materials for several years through Pecos and when price checking with local and smaller retailing companies these materials were costing 50% less for the items I could purchase from companies who were not on the Pecos listing of permitted retailers. How can this be justified other than large profits gained by the persons or Governments instructed by the ecommerce sector to use as the only means of purchase for our local authorities.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools close on Friday, half day anyway so 4 day week	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Schools must open, by law, on a defined number of days per year, but this suggestion will be discussed with national partners to determine whether it could be taken forward.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I fail to understand why denominational schools are being built. Building & therefore running 2 secondary & 2 primary schools in Winchburgh seems a significant waste of resources. This was an opportunity to unite people yet we continue to fuel division. There is no need for segregated education.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The provision of denominational and non-denominational education is governed by law.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pecos makes things more expensive already	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil support in schools needs more funding, not less. ; Pastoral staff take on workloads that reduce those of social workers, currently. This isn't something we can afford to lose.;; Money could be easily saved from combining RC schools with mainstream, non-denominational, secular schools across the authority.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. The provision of denomination schools is covered by specific legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The cost of supporting multiple primary schools in the same village is still a puzzle. Not only does it make little sense financially but also divides and separates children, leading to divided and separated adults.;; Do not support less teachers in the classroom.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. The provision of denomination schools is covered by specific legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Why in this day and age when we preach inclusivity and are trying to stamp out racial & religious hatred do we have protestant & catholic schools and are involved in building 2 new separate schools in Winchburgh?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. The provision of denomination schools is covered by specific legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I personally feel all denominations should be in one school rather than split by having a catholic school and other denominations	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. The provision of denomination schools is covered by specific legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Less Teachers and more pupil support staff would be good for schools as more and more children are needing one to one support and also adults to monitor the lunch hall as schools are also struggling to staff this especially if there is sickness too.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The Council employs the number of teachers required to meet national class size limits, and to fulfil the statutory duty to raise attainment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think if we extended the school day by one hour Monday to Thursday and completely closed the building on a Friday we would provide the same amount of school teaching hours for pupil but would save on heating and electricity on Fridays as there would be no need to open the schools. It would also save on transportation costs as we would only need to provide transport Monday to Thursday .	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. The number of days on which schools must open is set by regulation, but national discussion could take place to determine whether the Scottish Government would be prepared to change this.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	In 2022 we are still sending kids who may live next door to each other to 2 separate schools. In this day and age it is a disgrace that we are still doing this. We are told from governments and media that we all have to be inclusive, but this obviously excluded kids going to separate schools. If everyone went to the school in their area would save a fortune in transport, traffic congestion (parents driving kids to schools). In another way it would go along way to make in roads to solving sectarianism.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. The provision of denomination schools is covered by specific legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are fortunate enough to pay for school meals and pens and pencils. The school has to stop dishing out things to everyone. Pls only support those in need.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Some universal provision, including free school meals, is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Having to use peacos is very expensive as opposed to amazon	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The Council's purchasing strategy is based on achieving best value across all aggregated purchasing, not on individual instances where a cheaper alternative may be available.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The sector is top heavy with high earning executive type roles like EO's and Pedagogy officers whose main function can appear to support HTs to produce data rather than pupils to produce results.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	West Lothian Council has a lean central education team whose support is valued by schools and is an integral part of the raising attainment strategy.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	PCOS costs schools money - we are unable to purchase goods and resources from cheaper (but still reputable) suppliers like supermarkets and shops.;	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The Council's purchasing strategy is based on achieving best value across all aggregated purchasing, not on individual instances where a cheaper alternative may be available.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need more support staff in early years. With more ASN children attending ratio's need to be looked at to ensure opportunities for high level learning experiences.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	West Lothian Council follows national staffing and quality standards.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third party providers are only there to get as much money as they can get and are not always the better option.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Review all contracts and seek to get the best for the money spend. No cronyism	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ordering resources through YPO etc is more costly than likes of Amazon Argos Asda etc. Would cut costs drastically if schools were able to "shop around"	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The Council's purchasing strategy is based on achieving best value across all aggregated purchasing, not on individual instances where a cheaper alternative may be available.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Therefore should not be a large number of promoted staff within a school. In Linlithgow Academy there are a significant number of PTs for support, this should be a normal teacher salary or admin scalee.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	more cost effective to use the same member of teaching staff	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You could solve some of the expenses in Education but allow purchasing to be done via a wide range of outlets. For example purchasing Flour via PECOS is not only more expensive but means there is/can be huge amounts of waste because in PECOS you have to purchase multiple bags when you might only need 2. They extra bags now need to be stored and may go out of date because it wasn't needed.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil/teacher ratios should not be reduced but should be increased and not with the use of assistants. Pupils need better "1to1" help, especially now coming out of covid to enable them to catch up.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	National pupil/teacher ration will continue to be applied.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Streamline management layers within education sector. Is it absolutely necessary to have education officers, for example. What real impact do they have in the success of schools??	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Education Officers make a significant contribution to quality improvement and raising attainment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already understaffed and under resourced. There needs to more clarification on the use of greater technologies to deliver the curriculum. What does that mean? Teaching online? I hope not. ; You need to allow schools greater management of where they source resources. Using PECOS is expensive. Goods can be purchased at a much more cost effective price from elsewhere yet schools are not permitted to do this.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Central purchasing results in cost savings overall.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	PCOS is costing schools money - let us buy locally at Argos and B&M when we have to please.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Central purchasing results in cost savings overall.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	1D Education budget aim for devolution of revenue resources should be 100 % based on need and schools should buy any central support they need from a small specialist central resource operating on a trading account. Capital Expenditure should be needs based and commissioned by central experts based on a condition survey	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. The Council does not intend to introduce trading accounts due to the significant administrative overheads inherent in this approach, which has been previously tried in local government, but subsequently abandoned.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Some savings could be made by not having to order items via procurement which cost far more for exactly the same item than if they were ordered from general vendors.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Central purchasing results in cost savings overall.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Third Party Providers;; The use of PECOS should be reviewed during this. The comparative cost of resources on these websites in relation to elsewhere is often much higher. This means that we are unable to obtain cost-effective resources and often end up paying grossly inflated prices for the exact same goods. Reviewing this buying model could save individual schools and thus the council considerable amounts.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Central purchasing results in lower costs overall.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Open on a Friday afternoon, like the rest of the country and extend lunch breaks so all the kids can eat in a timely manner.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has not plans to extend the school week. Longer lunch breaks could form part of the proposal regarding the secondary school day.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How about using the facilities at The Civic Centre as an over spill option for all schools currently bursting at their seams.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Additional capacity now available in new schools in Core Development Areas e.g. Winchburgh, Calderwood.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Ridiculous that primary children are being asked to take own devices to school! Yet again highlighting the gap between rich and poor! Kids hand writing and numeracy is suffering	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's well-established Anytime, Anywhere Learning Strategy affords the opportunity for children from P5 upwards to bring devices to school. Schools ensure all pupils have access to devices.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education could come under planning with a education executive then becoming a manager thus more savings.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Close the worst performing Schools, the pupils can then become an asset to the Local Community for a change be performing Litter Picking, basic road maintenance and drain clearing. They should work in a group attached together to avoid wandering, the more capable could entertain the Elderly. ; ; Parents of disruptive, abusive and otherwise poor performing Children should also be fined heavily to increase Council Funding.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	These suggestions are not in line with the Council's commitment to supporting the attainment and achievement of all pupils.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	"Technology" almost always adds to geater inefficiencies due to the advent of real people having to respond to completion of vast increases in data aquisition and interpretation. Good practical management has never relied on spurious "tech" solutions to achieve cost savings. ; Though it may not be witin the remit of this survey, the support given to "Faith" schools should be completely withdrawn, and where religions wish to maintain separate education for children they should pay for that from their own funds. Would such a saving not ammount to more than £5 million?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. As young people will progress to employment in a world where use of technology is required, it is necessary to include effective use of technology in education. The provision of denominational schools is covered by specific legislation.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staffing should be checked across the council in schools. In other words, it should be checked that budgets are not being spent on depute head teachers if they are not needed due to school size and the number of classes. This could be a saving or could be reallocated so that the money goes further.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Funding is devolved to Headteachers on the basis that they are best placed to determine what spending will best meet the needs of pupils. This national approach is designed to empower headteachers and schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	ASN pupils already suffer by being in mainstream education when a more appropriate/targeted approach may be needed which cannot be offered at the moment - what hope is there for them when you make 'efficiencies' in this area?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Pupils with ASN will be supported to benefit from the presumption of mainstream wherever possible.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	PEF schools are now receiving too much and children in other schools are suffering through lack of funding. the balance needs readdressing.Digital can not take the place of staff. Pupil support workers are essential and should not be reduced as they are vital.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has taken steps through its budget allocation to schools to address the socio-economic attainment gap, and this remains a priority for the Council.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Pupil experience should not be compromised. Inclusion is letting children down. It is not helping the children with asn or the others. Any further cuts would be immoral.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Pupils with ASN will be supported to ensure they benefit from the presumption of mainstream wherever possible.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Funding for schools should not just be allocated to deprived areas. The council talks about equity, but how is this achievable when some schools have technology/resources in abundance and others do not as they maybe don't have PEF funding or smaller school role!	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. The Council has invested to reduce the socio-economic attainment gap, and this remains a priority.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Has the council considered closing school swimming pools - individual pupils must only be in a school swimming pool for a few hours throughout their secondary school experience, what does it cost per swim? Class sizes are regulated nationally, why can we not exceed maximum class sizes by one pupil rather than employing additional teachers?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. The Council is committed to maintaining nationally agreed class sizes. The provision of swimming pools for school and community use is an area of expenditure that can be considered.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cut the pension contributions and stop McCrone time, There'll be lots of money for support for additional needs then!	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. The Council is committed to the proper financing of pensions, and to upholding national agreements.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Still too many ASN children unsupported in mainstream schools. More places in ASN school need to become available for children with ASN. There needs to be more PSWs employed in mainstream schools. We cannot close the attainment gap when all our PSWs are consumed by children with complex needs. The teachers are getting no support with the majority of the children who pose no threats or difficulties.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. The Council will ensure that as many pupils as possible can benefit from the presumption of mainstream, rather than provide more places in ASN schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Reduce reliance on technology and return to paper based learning. Let teachers teach without the distraction of technology.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. Educating children and young people to work effectively with technology is essential in order to prepare them for life and work.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What about the schools estate? The new Winchburgh and Sinclair academies are only opening to an S1 cohort, surely this isn't cost effective? S1 to S3 would have been much better.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	The phasing of new school openings are considered carefully to take account of the needs of all pupils at all stages, the impact on existing schools, and the successful establishment of the new school.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Also pupils should be in school on a Friday afternoon, the half day is and out dated practice and kids need as much time in school for a number of reasons. Very few councils in Scotland have a 4.5 day week.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Implement hybrid schooling 2 times a week and 3 x practical school days, 2 days of Zoom for children at home. Losing the school for 2 x days	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Schools must open, by law, on a defined number of days per year, but this suggestion will be discussed with national partners to determine whether it could be taken forward.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are already on their knees working with the bare minimum, in my opinion there is literally nothing else you can take. It would help if schools could buy resources from outwith the system to save some money, PECOS tends to have the same resources as some online retailers for over double the cost but our hands are tied.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Central purchasing results in the best overall value for schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If schools were permitted to purchase resources at the more competitive prices available outwith PECOS then budgets would go further.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Central purchasing results in the best overall value for schools.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School would benefit from being able to source a large number of their own resources rather than being restricted to the contractors that provide these. While I understand that the council have procurement responsibilities, schools are spending far too much on resources they could obtain at a lower cost elsewhere, This is not best value for school budgets.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Central purchasing results in the best overall value for schools.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Improvement of allowing greater volunteers tuition for under privileged kids would also be welcome. ; Eg I am a maths and computer science graduate, retired after many years in It industry. I am also a qualified sports coach and fully pvg checked yet find it impossible to volunteer to provide tuition for free. In England there is a national scheme to volunteer to tutor online or in person which one can sign up for . You are missing a fantastic resource pool usage	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The national expansion of out of school care may provide an opportunity for volunteers to provide positive educational activities for young people.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We need to seriously look at closing under utilised schools. Primary schools operating under 50% capacity located in a town / village with other primary schools present need to be closed down.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You should consider specialist teachers covering more than one school or offer subjects at one school and have pupils travel to a school that offers that subject,	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Current campus arrangements and the proposed virtual campus will take this idea forward.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Local communities must be key to this process as the blurb suggests closure of services reading between the lines.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Really believe that more investment is needed in West Lothian school to address youth outcomes. They are the parents, workers and citizens of the future and we need to level up their opportunities. What the pandemic taught us is that technology cannot replace a good teacher who understand how people learn. Also with so much concern about health and well-being being so poor and the cost to us ithrough proving services and interventions will only get higher as well-being drops. Again the cost far exceeds the saving and it would be incredibly short sighted. The council should invest in an education delivery review and upskilling staff to support young people better.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You could shorten the school day in line with eg Germany and have 8am-1pm and more homework for secondary pupils to do at home in the afternoons. Concentrate on the more academic subjects instead of ones like drama	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More resources for children with educational needs	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More teaching assistants to help writhing the class rooms as teachers are struggling	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More teaching assistants to help writhing the class rooms as teachers are struggling	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	No additional funding available to provide teaching assistants.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Less reliance on paid for resources such as the risk assessment platform.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sponser system could help	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology is useful and necessary but not the only approach. Not all children learn best using technology and do better with personal support and time from trained staff.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	New teachers? Clearer curriculum to enable both teaching staff, pupils and parents alike to follow the same path and align with each other.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I would suggest closing small schools like Seafield and Dechmont and transporting the children to other nearby schools. Children will have a better school experience with more opportunities to make more friends	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Admin staff and PSW staff work very hard daily. Often working more hours than they are actually paid for. However there are staff in schools who do not (I.e) PT does as little as possible and has Admin, PSW and Teachers picking up the slack! If staff all did what they were paid to do, maybe reductions could be found. Please don't penalise the staff who go above and beyond and work hard and are proud to work for WLC! Look at the big picture and you'll easily see the staff on big wages who bring nothing to the table!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Needs to be balanced with kids educational needs. Technology can only be relied upon in certain circumstances and a back up needs to be in place to support kids that struggle with this type of learning	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children need adults to help them learn and we are seeing a growing number of children who need small group support, 1-1 support. There are a lot of SMT in schools who are non teaching, surely they could be put to better use.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Recycling/ upcycling old furniture in schools could help with costs. Any furniture i.e desks, chairs, old equipment could be used/sold to companies or places starting up business. This would reduce costs further and also a great way to being sustainable	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School support staff must be utilized to enable pupils to access Thier education and as such are an essential connection for pupils to better deal with mental health issues that impact on ability to learn from teachers. Support staff are an essential part of school wellbeing and building resilience. Savings can be made in management team and better distribution of responsibility through PTC/ teaching staff and less repition of duties. Outside agencies can be intimidating to pupils better use in school staff saving costs and maintaining good community spirit in school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any savings made in education must be ring-fenced and reinvested in education. We don't fund education sufficiently today, so removing further funding should not even be on the table.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Devolved school management sounds like one headteacher for say three schools which seems unrealistic. Perhaps some of the money spent on EO's could be spent on delivering the curriculum rather than checking that the teachers are doing so would be an alternative route.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are definitely ways to bring down costs in schools. Schools need to be able to access best value when purchasing and reduce what is wasted on inflated prices. Schools need to identify what kit they need and make sure each school has this as a starting point. From there, they could bid for money from a central budget to buy things over and above this or to replace broken materials. Bids would be backed up by the audit process to make sure schools have what they need.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Significant savings could be achieved but may have an impact on educational delivery, particularly concerns around using technology to deliver curriculum. Would be a shame to loose any face to face teaching but other resources such as cleaning and school meals could be outsourced	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	More support and resources is needed for schools in deprived areas and possibly less in more affluent areas. School is a refuge for a lot of children at the moment and to take away anything at this time will have a big impact.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As for greater use of technology? This is surely a joke? I have access to a suite of computers in the school I work in. Pupils in my classes struggle to access MS Teams and OneDrive as the WiFi in the school is so poor. The WiFi 'boosters' on the wall aren't even switched on ! The computers I speak of are between 6 and 10 years old. The software updates are leaving the ageing hardware behind. Our music technology software is out of date. In general, our school doesn't have nearly enough IT, and much of what we have is well out of date. Most pupils have IT at home which is way better than what we offer in school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The antiquated way schools must spend their budget must change. The approved sellers are far too costly and do not give good value for money. 5 million seems like an awful lot to save from education when they are already struggling with budget cuts.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The DSM need to walk a day in the shoes of an already reduced service to see the impact of the cuts at ground level. Staff are doing the best that they can in very stretched circumstances.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again - technology is great and has a place but actual real people who are 'hands on' is required more and more in schools. I volunteer regularly on school trips and the variety and needs and issues requiring support astounds me each time... more pupil support workers are going to be required to provide a safe and nurturing environment for our children.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This can only be acheived by technology and the West lothian Academy is central to that. It is sector leading but needs to be resourced and utilised in a way that increases collaboration between schools and provides a platform (that it has proven to be) for attainment to continue across schools on a sound financial basis. Savings for the WLA amount to millions over the last 7 years when compared to the inclass cost	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are also extremely short on available digital technology equipment as a school and even more so as a department. This has been raised several times with senior management as it is proving almost impossible to deliver our Music Technology qualifications with less equipment than is required to deliver the courses and give pupils the experience and opportunities that they deserve.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	All schools prioritise their devolved resources to meet the needs of the curriculum and needs within the school community.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	We are already stretch incredibly thin - any move to more digital MUST necessitate digital infrastructure improvements - a third of our school building has almost no internet access. We currently have very few PSW we cannot meet the needs of every learner and support inclusion with fewer. Data shows that there are more pupils with ASN in mainstream than ever - an uneducated populace will further serve to impact on future financial issues.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The only way savings can be made is by reducing the quality and quantity of the offer to the children. This will have a detrimental effect on wellbeing of pupils and staff. Any reduction of administrative support will push an ever increasing administrative burden onto Headteachers. Headteachers in West Lothian already report working longer hours than counterparts in other local authorities and already identify that more of their time is spent on functions previously covered by Central teams / other departments in West Lothian and by admin staff.; ; The only way budget savings of this kind could be found would be by reducing the days children are in school to 4 - adjusting the end of the school day by a 30 minute increase - ensuring that all RCCT and CLPL took place on a Friday and reducing support staff hours / admin staff hours accordingly	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Schools are currently required by regulation to provide 190 days of Education. A national debate on the future model of education provision, taking account of the future needs of society would be beneficial to ensure the future relevance and effectiveness of school education, as well as efficiency.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Admin and PSW are already very poorly paid, therefore to increase the workload and reduce the number of teachers and business managers will lead to these groups of staff leaving and or the quality of these staff groups diminishing. Better training and career growth for both would pay dividends and a better rate of pay.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School support staff provide good value for money in that their costs are comparatively low. Efficiencies in management roles create more significant savings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Technology within schools needs to be improved and upgraded so all pupils have access to a device at all times during the day - schools technology budget does not allow for head teachers to invest in netbooks for each student making this impossible.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Proposing changes to allocations of resources is hopefully for the better good of the individual departments as it is not clear if the changes would be for the better good or cuts if the latter i would be very concerned at how teachers, technicians could continue delivering a practical based subject without a good injection of funds and deliver an effective service.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a support staff employee within a school as a Science Technician, I have seen over 20 years of service a three person practical job become one and the volume of work increase . As technology changes the Science does too and our cuts within our budgets and procurement rules have resulted in less money to spend and equipment badly needing replaced and duplicated to modernise new courses, they may be tested and properly maintained year to year but the money is not available to buy new up to date equipment for the future children to come through secondary school and have a modern experience within Science.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools are not great at reaching out and working in partnership with each other or even with internal partners to make best use of resources. I think if this was done better large savings could be made.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I hope WLC will have really clear assessments of the current situation, and a clear idea of what success looks like BEFORE they undertake any of these cuts. It might be worth starting by deciding what schools are for. If they are only for exam assessed outcomes then moving to more online teaching makes sense. If they are about broadening life experiences, then make that clear publicly and fund the experiences and trips that families are struggling to make happen. Are we still trying to bridge the gap in educational attainment? What are the success figures for online learning for lower SIMD?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As the schools were one of the last areas of the public sector to fully reopen after Covid, there is a lot of work to be done. Maybe some detail would allow taxpayers to form a view of the plans,	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Staff in the early years are very over stretched and undervalued at the moment. There has been many changes to the EY, they are the starting point for our young people yet hours change to suit parents but not staff who have children. Nursery nurses covered by support staff which has effect on care/ education and quality of work. Parents are not utilising extra hours to work and it is not getting it right for every child. More and more children are entering the education system requiring support that is just not available.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Take away lollipop men/woman form traffic lights, place them where there are no lights/dangerous busy roads	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	My child is disabled and need a support worker to assist his needs as there are not enough disabled schools or places to give him what he needs, the school tries to give him what they can, but resources for disability are not always there nor the class types he would need so gaps are filled with what they have, they do try to provide something for him but it's not a specialist school, sometimes there are not enough support workers to assist his needs due to exams and I have to collect him early or he will have to sit in a room and not in a class. Please look at how disabled children are looked after in main stream schools if there are not enough specialists schools.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Can we outsource some teaching to the private sector of the health service? How are we using the excellent experience gained during Covid to teach at home, empowering parents and itinerant teachers (cf home health workers). Learn from other parts of the world where home schooling over the air is the norm eg in the Outback of Australia.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Budgets would be better spread across the service rather than some schools being able to provide different services to the children due to their working costs.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Each school should have funding for the pupils they have coming through their doors not by catchment - school must take pupils regardless of level of need but the funding may go to another school !!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The Council would surely need to share an Impact Assessment proving that they were benefitting children's experiences and well- being before implementing cuts. This should involve decision makers making regular visits to their schools to experience the day to day realities children and staff are coping with and to properly consult with ALL service users, children included.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Concern at impact of children's education. Teachers should be focussed on classroom delivery and not admin. Concern that more children with additional needs will be in main stream education with teachers attention being further split. Review of school transport why are buses continuing to operate from polbeth to Parkhead park. This is a saving and not an essential service. Things like the council need to stop.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Removal of school transport out with statutory limits is a proposal as part of the current consultation exercise.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please ensure that resources are assigned to pupil support for mental health. The brains of our future need the right positive support especially when home life is challenging. We need to build resilience in children but to the point of realising that sometimes things wont be ok and that they are ok to feel challenged and ask for support. Without this foundationally any plans for school resource is not robust	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Additional support staff are essential in schools and should be prioritised in any reshuffle	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	With regards to staffing there are still some support staff who have 52 week contracts who should be reviewed as they have little work during the summer and would make a saving.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Staff contracts will be kept under review.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Nursery and nurture bases. Cups/plates glasses have all to be purchased as per policy for children in nursery and nurture base. Schools no longer allowed to purchase plastic sets. Increase wastage do not understand the rationale behind giving 3 and 4 year old glasses and plates to break. Then to be replaced by the school additional cost. This surely must be reviewed. You will streamline funding through DSM but schools still expected to follow policy. Expected to support struggling families. PEF funding is simply not the answer. Pupils not to lose out. Schools expected to do more with less. Priority should be given to education. Getting the basics right. Extra curricular activities should be under the control of the parents	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment, although they do not relate to the specific proposals being made.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There are many teachers serving our community being treated like commodities already on rolling fixed term contracts with little job security. Teachers are our most valuable resource and deserve permanency. Offering dedicated professionals job security will have a positive impact on staff wellbeing, consistency for our service users and cost effective retention.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. The issue of permanent contracts for teachers is not directly relevant, however.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Any changes in this area should be proven to have no detrimental impact on pupils or should not go ahead. It's essential we give our children the best start in life and this should be a top priority for the council.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	school and properties require to be closed and roles amalgamated with other schools in same areas	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The staffing in schools is stretched at the moment so any changes to assist the few number of teaching and support staff would be beneficial. Third party providers may not always be the cheapest and best. Should look at in house catering and also in house maintenance	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children should all be allocated the exact same device to do with school. And phones put in a box at start of lesson.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Rather than implementing further cuts to school resources, can savings be made from reducing the number of school buildings? Nobody wants their local school to close, granted, but surely its better to maximise the use of spare capacity to gain savings from property running costs etc rather than school resources which will inevitably impact on the quality of education provided to our children.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There needs to be a greater collaboration between schools and council as the recent fiasco at armadale academy trip to Borneo proved and wasted money and disappointed the kids. If you can't afford things then don't offer them. Allow schools to decide what's best for them in terms of booking out their facilities, share facilities between schools.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately it is not directly relevant to the proposal.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't know if it falls in this box, but there needs to be consideration of wrap around care for children who have two working parents. For example in Calderwood, East Calder there is no after-school provision except one that is 1.1mile walk in all weather which really upsets my young child, so we can't use it. I've heard the Calderwood school can not be used as an after school location. There needs to be consideration of after school care as it's not possible for all parents to pick up their kids in the middle of a working day. Hopefully these services will be supported through a devolved model or the school could be allowed to charge a provider for the facilities and make money from the after school provision to benefit everyone. Or make after school care provision mandatory in some form	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. After school care is not directly relevant to this proposal.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	privatisation - go Labour! Can only be better i suppose then my nephew who just started 1st year and has had no Home Economics teacher at all but does get to watch videos at those periods although not about home economics'	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	unless its got significantly better since i was there school teaches nothing useful to society, especially diet, health, not drinking just because its legal, anti social behaviour (house parties are not acceptable to neighbours) and anti litter (its the wee (redacted) just left school and driving chucking (redacted) out of cars). techs ok till is goes down then what ?!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children at St Kents should be offered to play bagpipes as there are less and less pipers out there.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Instrumental music will continue to be supported at current levels, but expansion is not proposed.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds like a way for councillors' mates to rip off the west lothian taxpayer.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Children are suffering, teachers are not trained properly, 14 years old children don't understand analog wall clock. Basics of education are not met. LGBT, ALCOHOL, SEXUAL RELATIONS, DRUGS, change of gender are the main topics in school. Waste of money and time. Sorry to say all this, but Education in Scotland is in regressive mode, just to make our children stupid on purpose. That's my honest answer. Thanks for reading.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Maybe if the schools focused less on the kids who cause a scene and don't want to be there the others may benefit.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please don't try and teach our kids remotely or through teams. It was unhelpful and kids need the interaction with teachers and other school staff. We will risk failing a generation of learners if we don't teach them to be socially aware in the real world. Don't rely on tech more than teachers.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How about education system Scotland where once leaders world wide and that far far from the case infact I find the education system nothing short of robbery for our children's future.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Concentrate on practical education not nonsense like the sex survey created by a (redacted)	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As parent who had three teenagers coming through school during the pandemic I see the after mouth of what happened and what is to come. Two out of three with no positive outcome right now as the teachers and school were too busy supporting their staff	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	remove unnecessary administrative burdens on teaching staff, and posts within schools;	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This needs further clarification. Where exactly are you saving £5 million?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	schools are the future.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds poy	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Huge saving.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I know cuts have to be passed down but this is unbelievable. The UK and Scottish Govt should work together and forget indie2!!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again just reminding you school achievement is rock bottom is west Lothian, secondary school league table is important	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	no undrestand this msg	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Students may feel less safe of unknown non-teaching staff	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	the politicisation of education must be halted, and education vastly improved. scottish kids are now thicko, and outperformed by third world.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Also would be very concerning for a member of staff about having their lessons recorded for malicious purposes by the children or adults and shared on social media sites without their consent. How can that be policed?! Can children's responses/work also be shared maliciously in this way also from the sessions?!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Staff and pupils follow social media guidelines.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sorry again we have do not have much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events, Leaving EU etc. My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Same again here. For example West Calder High school, has a big roof, wind turbines again.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	If you can save five million through some simple fixes, who should you fire for not pointing it out years ago? More managers?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The comment does not include any positive ideas or suggestions.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Kr***** (redacted)	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All children should be treated equally this special bus and taxis for some is money wasted everyone should get on the same bus from the same schools. Parents who use cars when it is raining or snowing should either use own transport all the time or school transport not both. This is a waste of money and all these cars at schools are a safety risk. Exclusion zones around schools bus only areas.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. The consultation contains specific questions on school transport, but this question does not concern school transport.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Failed in England with academics privately run bad idea	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is not for privately run academies.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Change the arrangements of Torphichen primary school - currently the children have free reign on structuring their day and are not actually "taught" - I feel my childs education is suffering as a result and lots of children in his class are now being offered additional support for learning as they are not progressing	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. It is not directly relevant to the proposal, however. Any issues with the education in a particular school should be raised with the Headteacher in the first instance.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	1. Sports and extra activities after school; 2. Educational trips; 3. Organizing Annual events.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	School parking at st Joseph's primary in Whitburn is terrible the teachers are getting verbal abuse from people that think it's ok to park in disabled spaces without a badge. Money should be spent on school patrols to enable people to park at a safer distance. They teachers don't deserve it	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Unfortunately it is not directly relevant to the proposal. Issues of school transport are addressed elsewhere in the consultation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The only way to save money is to reduce your salary and pensions, but how can you persuade the unions?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Also tighten up on those who qualify for school; Clothing Grant and Free School Meals... There are too many parents pretending they are single and live apart from their partner when they don't!!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments, including the qualification criteria for access to benefits.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Do not touch Education. The councils only focus is exam results yet you seem to think you can still get high results with reduced support, staff and this constant obsession with digitising everything! Schools should be run by the national government and not local government as you have done a pretty awful job so far.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	There should also be more money coming for schools from UK government	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The government in England doesnt give the Scottish government enough funds to pay for the education in scotland	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	But no detail of what is intended so difficult to comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	A significant saving within Education but very little detail of what this will mean for the educational experience of young people and those who deliver it?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am a professional qualified individual and I have no idea what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Please explain this in English how savings are proposed to be made, not management speak.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Seems to be a whole load of things wrapped up in a paragraph of text that doesn't actually say anything about the pupil experience or impact on outcomes for pupils.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No idea what this would mean for the experience children and young people would receive. The proposal contains no information to allow me as a parent to comment in a meaningful way.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again this description is too general to allow me to make informed comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, as there are no details here, it is difficult to provide substantive comments. As a general observation school resources in West Lothian seem to be at full stretch especially with the large number of new homes currently being built or at the planning stage. Intuitively, this would seem to call for an increase in educational resources rather than a reduction. Please, please do not cut back on the ability of school children to learn music, go on school trips, etc. The provision of support for those with additional educational needs and those brighter pupils who need more challenging work should not be cut back.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I do not understand what this means in practice and how this will affect me and my children and I have 2 masters degrees. Not sure how you expect most people to provide useful comments.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is impossible to comment on this without the detail of the proposals. What exactly does 'This may include utilising resources provided to deliver additional support in schools for core staffing requirements, greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum, and changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements' mean?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Details would be worked up if proposal agreed by elected members.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This section makes me laugh as West Lothian Council spend millions on state of the art new schools while others are falling apart and resources are scarce and children suffer as a result. Allocation of funds is currently unfair.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What an unambiguous statement. 'Utilising resources provided' means absolutely nothing. Much greater detail is needed to explain this. Technology cannot replace a teacher, it will be to the detriment of the education, social care and health of our children. Who will do school admin? Teachers? This will again have massively detrimental effect on the education provided. Devolved school management funding, meaning schools a manges but a business? It will be a disaster and again not conducive to education of our young people. 'Will enable the council to continue service provision' I think you will find you have a legal requirement to provide this service. I thought Scotland was meant it have one of the best education systems in the world. It is in crises at the moment and you want to strip it back flans destroy it further.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not really sure what is being proposed here. Any proposal that reduces class time with their teachers or removes pupil support assistants from classes would be unacceptable.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is not clear what the proposals are or how they will benefit the pupils. Each school has it's own specific needs linked to the area they support and the pupils within that catchment. Support staff are essential and already thin on the ground, it is unclear how centralising will cut costs without cutting staff or asking them to spread themselves even thinner for the same low wage.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Also without support staff how are you intending to manage 1F where you reduce teacher contact but not pupils in school time. Without seeing a more detailed plan this reads like something which will negatively impact pupils with the greatest need for support, from the most disadvantaged backgrounds and those with additional support needs who struggle to engage with learning without support.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	All jargon! Absolutely zero detail or anything meaningful!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't understand the details here, so can't comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	it is not clear from this description what is being proposed. I understand increasing use of technology as long as it is support rather than replace the teachers.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Once again, it would be useful to know the detail of these proposals. Successful learning is predicated on effective relationships. Moving away from people, may in some cases. challenge the relationships which currently exist to support learning.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Even as a retired teacher I haven't a clue what this means!!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This statement is completely opaque	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The proposal is also very vague and for the local population to fully understand how this is going to impact their children, there needs to be more information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I think your only telling half the story id like to see the full manuscript to see what exactly your saying fully about what use really intend for school from a parent perspective I wouldn't agree till I see everything you have planned in front of me I do not trust the education system or government anymore use could say one thing and add on many more thats not disclosed	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Not enough detail to judge the impact this might have.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't know what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Can't determine what this actually means as no detail given	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Don't fully understand the proposal	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No enough info - does 'changes' mean cuts?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Without details if what this would actually involve it is Impossible to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	How is the devolved school management budget already decided upon? Seems silly to ask for comments on changes when not setting out how it is different to current as well as the impact of what the saving would be?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is very difficult to understand. I don't know if you are being deliberately obtuse.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Cannot comment as I don't understand what is being proposed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Impossible to comment on this without receiving further detail on the proposal.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	dont really know what this mean	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Is this really a consultation or just a tick box to say you have done one? Is anyone seriously meant to comment on the level of information supplied?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. ; ; There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Are the opportunities for more efficient service delivery because of revision of school resources actually better described as cuts to funding? Does "utilising resources provided to deliver additional support in schools for core staffing requirements" mean we will have only money for basic class teaching but not support for learning and nurture? What will happen to the children who need more intensive input? Does "use of technology to deliver the curriculum" mean high quality remote learning? Does "changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements" mean there will be fewer vital members of staff in school supporting the most vulnerable of our children? Does "continue service provision" mean keep the children off the streets for the duration of the school day and hope that is enough? What effect will these cuts have on our children's outcomes as measured by teenage pregnancy rates, involvement in the prison and probations services, alcohol and drug use, low mental health, self-harm and suicide?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Would like more details about how this will look in practice. It appears some schools/areas do much better than others. Eg, some areas have fantastic new build schools with new resources, whilst other schools (of which my daughter is enrolled) being under a PPI system, are lucky to get a roof tile fixed and maintance is poor. How would greater use of technology make savings? - again more detail is needed to be able to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I am not clear what is being proposed here? Does increased use of technology to deliver the curriculum mean children watching even more YouTube content in schools? If so, I do not support this. However, there may be more innovative ways of delivering content using technology which I may support. I don't think this consultation has been written in accessible language for the general public to understand.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Further explanation of the implications and intentions of "greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum" . What exactly does that entail?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This doesn't make any sense. Please remove the jargon and ask again	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unclear what this actually means in regards to staffing levels. The language used is not clear so this makes it very difficult to agree or disagree with the proposal. This is particularly concerning when it is about our children and their education. ; ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Your proposal does not explain the negative impact of this efficiency so it is difficult to determine if this is a good idea	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Confused on you can achieve this and save money.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Insufficient information is provided on what the impact will feel like to staff and students for there to be sensible comments. I'm all for more efficiency, but often this is just a euphemism for cuts to provision which is then felt.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Who could oppose 'more efficient service delivery but what does it mean? See my answer to 1A. The vast majority of people would have no idea what this means in practice	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Education, education, education. The Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council would have substantial reservations about anything the dilutes the quality of education in the County. The text above seems opaque in terms of what is actually means. Substantial engagement will be required with the community before any changes to education are made.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Again, this is being worded to hide what it actually means. If you do not define the reduction in public service and quantify the loss of jobs, and you describe everything as efficiencies and continuing service provision, why are you consulting and asking these questions? why not just make the saving if it's clearly a good idea. There is no clear definition of the public service and the pros and cons of the savings. Also, if you have quantified the number at £5 million, this implies you have already identified 'efficiencies' and 'opportunities', you're not going to be exploring and identify opportunities if you've already done it? Honesty with the public is generally the best policy, and the one the public will respect.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What does this even mean? You ask for our opinions but you write paragraphs that say absolutely nothing about what your proposals are. Any money saved by efficiencies in schools should be ploughed back into schools. Do not just look at what can be saved but what can be done. Taking money from education will only hurt us all in the future. Scrap any idea you can remove £5m from education. Make the efficiencies sure, but keep that money in there	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Certain themes seem to be recurring - cheaper efficient technology, 'realignment' of staff allocations and remit.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is hard to comment on as I don't fully understand what a devolved school management funding model looks and what does changes to administrative and pupil support staffing arrangements mean.; ; Using 3rd party providers is worrying when they are already stretched very thin and very under resourced.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Sounds like bla bla bla to me basically cutting teaching asisstants by any chance	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	That's a large saving without great detail on how it will be achieved	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a resident of West Lothian I find the structure of this survey very misleading. It contains very broad sweeping statements which in no way provides any detail as to the impact that the proposals will have.; The administrative staff and pupil support staff in school have varied and numerous duties, any cut to this would have a severe impact on the day to day running of the school community for pupils, parents/carers and school staff. ; Does greater use of technology to deliver the curriculum mean that teachers are going to have a class in front of them and pupils on line? How can this be managed? The pandemic highlighted how important it is for pupils to have a GTCs registered teacher in the room with them, not only for the attainment of the pupils but also their emotional well being. Schools are so much more than a place of learning, they provide support for our pupils in every aspect of their lives, which considering the current economic climate, teacher - pupil relationships are even more crucial than ever. ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Insufficient detail to make meaningful comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Much more detail required	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	First the text is nothing but blown up blah blah. Please provide concrete details and examples. What do these models look like compared to now snd where and how exactly are you saving money. You should not save money on schools, education and services. Those children are our future.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Clarity is needed what school resources or third party providers you are proposing to cut.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information. As a parent with two school age young people I am really concerned about lack of consultation. I only found out about this through the council website which I feel doesn't show a willingness of the council to meaningfully engage with the public.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the schools my grandchildren attend due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	What does this mean for kid's education? Too little detail here. More information required.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Don't understand how using third-party providers will provide maintained/improved quality, or indeed long term savings, in a school setting. Insufficient detail on impact to make any assessment. Additional moneys should be coming from UK following budget statement.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Without details it is difficult to comment. I'm all for efficiencies, but it depends how detrimental it would be to services.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Wow didn't quite understand the question there but yes education to a large degree is important read write arithmetic are basics however music /foreign language /cooking skills etc I personally feel is based on interest and aptitude: like to go back to the basics and if a individual shows flair give them a platform = academic or natural affinity11 plus or grammar schools?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	So what does this actually mean ? Stop using big words & just say exactly where the cuts are getting made & how will they actually affect school/kids.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	Schools already appear very stretched in terms of staffing and resources, it's unclear from this statement the cost of the 3rd party review, why it can't be done internally and who the devolved funding will be managed by? Is it per school? Who is responsible for the management of funds?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	The terminology in the above statement seems quite opaque to me and it is not really clear what it mean in real terms. Firstly, I think that it should be spelled out much more transparently in order for us to make a proper judgment on the proposals. However, I have hopefully understood the thrust.; ; The amount of £5 million is quite frightening. We need more staffing in schools, not less, in order to meet the targets consistently being set. Adequate staffing in schools is vital to making progress, especially as schools now deal with so many other issues, apart from the education of our children. With depleted staffing 'getting it right for every child' will become more and more difficult.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	No idea what this means as you have not actually said what you will do. Significant amount of jargon. Plain English required. ; ; I do not support any cuts to education services. The schools are already on their knees.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I don't know what this actually means - what are you taking away	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	You haven't outlined how you plan to do this, therefore not giving West Lothian residents the chance to support/oppose your plans, or how it's going to affect them, through child care when they are at work.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	It is difficult to comprehend what is being proposed here. ; I can read one item as using funding designed to deliver on "additional support" to pay for "core" activities and would be interested to learn what additional activities would be dropped as a consequence of this. ; Other proposals are very confusing E.g. re third parties is the intention to reduce use to deliver cost savings or increase use to find efficiency. This should be explained with examples of third parties and/or services under consideration.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	This is all jargon, no real examples of what this actually means in practice. I cannot comment fully on this as I don't know what you are planning to do.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1D Allocation of School Resources	I need further clarification on exactly what these proposals are before I can commit to supporting them. Our young people have borne the brunt of the negative impact of the pandemic restrictions over the past couple of years and I am determined that their education provision should not be further impacted.; This is the issue that most residents have also raised concerns about, but I feel I can't comment further until I know exactly what the proposals are.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Would not personally affect me but again happy with the cost savings if efficient and inclusive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree school clothing grants should be kept but you need to do more to ensure everyone entitled is accessing it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is right to review breakfast clubs as schools aren't there to provide childcare. If the free lunch offer is more than the SG funding is provided for then yes it should be reviewed but there needs to be some discretion to accommodate families who don't have much but are over the thresholds that might be in place.; Agree school clothing grants should be kept but you need to do more to ensure everyone entitled is accessing it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think the school hubs and breakfast clubs also child care is a great way to help out in the cost of living and will help alot of families out the schools do a good job with this and good it's continuing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Education should be taking a share of the cuts. Overly protected by politicians at expense of many other vital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Musical instrument provision is a hobby and should not be made universally available and is a service where savings could be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes these are a govt initiatives and should be fully funded by them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is fantastic, especially in these uncertain times where money is tight . Parents will be reassured their children will be fed an have good quality school uniforms.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I support free school meals and widening this if possible - the mere thought of kids going to school hungry in one of the richest countries in the world is unbearable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ensure instrument lessons are costed and charged appropriately	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All areas listed are important and continued provision within budget is positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should be continued	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These things should continue to be free. All of them are important to the successful outcome for pupils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing allowances, I get the idea of this but not everyone needs this and can be unfair to people who are really needing it but are refused, keeping it at the lower minimum is a good idea, enough is enough something has to give and to keep someone in a position to educate I would rather we cut the budget for clothing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	See previous comment - not all parents need this and it should go back to being means tested instead of rolled out to all... absolutely not needed and a total waste of money!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	seems a sensible approach, although would be cautious at what impact this is likely to have for those in low-income families who are likely to make use of these services particularly in light of the cost of living impacts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Make such provision targeted and means tested	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We rely on breakfast club to be able to make our working hours. By all means make it a paid service if you must. But you will lose income from higher rate taxpayers (and therefore full council tax payers) if you remove breakfast clubs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposal does not intend to introduce charging for breakfast clubs.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reduce the level of school clothing grants to what is funded by the government - they provide what's needed. Stop wasting money showing off. It's fully costed by the government - don't go over on any of them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Scottish Government should be providing funds specifically for this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Essential for low income families and students for a start in life, as long as standards are improved or maintained	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes to clothing grants where needed but no to free school meals unless on benefits or in vulnerable category	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	End ALL duplication with Scottish Government and voluntary sector including on holiday activities and school clothing school budget.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is vital that the council continues to support free school meals, breakfast clubs and clothing grants. Instrumental music tuition is a discretionary service and should only be continued if it is fully funded by parents, otherwise it should not be a priority for the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Whilst this is essential to ensure pupils have access to meals and breakfast clubs, it is my experience that parents use this provision as a 'babysitting' service with little impact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian provides the help required with free school meals/ breakfast clubs and this should not be considered for any cuts. In the circumstances that families face themselves in now this is possibly the best chance some children have to be fed in a day, meaning able to concentrate better on schoolwork as not continually hungry.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This proposal will continue to provide these services in line with Scottish Government funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The benefits given to all parents should be enough for them to provide adequately for their children. A packed lunch can cost very little. The public can't keep being asked to fund these issues which in most cases come about because of poor budgeting skills or the refusal to prioritise their spending. Having worked as a housing officer it's an eye opener where money gets squandered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Means testing for free breakfast club, good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would agree with this for some kids free school meal is not required. This is the same with breakfast club	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I hope we do not lose free breakfast clubs- these are essential	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Breakfast clubs would be retained in line with Scottish Government funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree - we need to ensure that everyone entitled to this receives it though	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast club - was seen in the primary school where I worked as cover for working parents/free childcare provision rather than their child needing food in the morning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals - at the primary school where I worked, a tiny number of children needed FSM's and yet many took it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Good but I'm torn as to why those with significant incomes get these benefits.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree - if the Scottish Government doesn't adequately fund this, the council should not be subsidising it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	this was unsustainable and requires to be more targeted	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The free instrumental services are fantastic! This should be well maintained as the children will get benefits from all aspect of the social, emotional, cognitive, spiritual and physical wellbeing. A fantastic piece of news!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Services such as school clothing banks and other charities should assist!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals for families who can afford to pay is a waste of resources but appreciate this is Government decision	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Very important	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sorry do not agree with School clothing grants as these parents are already getting enough funds from the Government.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As long as the children receive the same entitlement how it is delivered should be as efficient as possible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This seems reasonable and it is great that WLC have been able to provide extra in recent years. Again it is important that there is a way that less fortunate children can be identified easily and still given free meals/milk/access to music and so on.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Many parents would not object to paying for breakfast clubs or lunches when they are in a position to afford it. At the moment services are provided to all for free in all areas which encourages a higher uptake where the free services are not needed and reduces the available funding from those that do need the support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	agree with this!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Some areas will require more free school meals than others. Not all children need them. There isn't the same stigma attached to having free school meals now & no one knows who has one because schools are cash free now. Only give to families that actually need them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	My child will not eat the school meals, so she gets a packed lunch, I do worry about the level of food waste with FSM (I'm aware in the grand scheme of things this probably doesn't matter very much!). Removing stigma around FSM is fantastic, provision at the most inclusive level should continue where possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School music tuition impacts a minimal amount of young people. Music is provided in the core curriculum and can also be provided externally by charities. I would welcome a review of this. Music tuition in my opinion should be cut before any other areas above.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree with means tested school food provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think this has always been a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel the breakfast club helps working parents and also children who are not having sufficient meals at home. The clothing grant is good however schools are very good at promoting second hand and my childrens school have an amazing "free shop" where the children and collect uniforms. I would be happy for the clothing grant to be reduced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This could be a potential saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sounds as though the budget is being reduced so the service will suffer slightly. However, if it is using the funding from the Scottish Government, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Nice	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We require some these for some families but not all , there are plenty who would happily pay for breakfast club xnd school meals etc and don't require it. Thus saving money there .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals for all is not equity, it is equality. Free school meals and clothing grants, should be for those in need only.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is well received. Children should not become the victims of budget cuts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Given circumstances maintaining grants at current levels may be the best option.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	review arrangements for free school lunches with central government, can parents discretionally contribute towards the 'free meals'.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	WITH THE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS BEING PROVIDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT WHY IS THERE STILL A NEED TO PROVIDE FREE SCHOOL MEALS, BREAKFAST OR SCHOOL UNIFORMS. THIS SHOULD BE CANCELLED COMPLETELY.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Whilst I understand the desire to be careful around providing free school meals to some not all kids. However, as a middle-income earner I think it is wrong to provide help for families like myself instead of increasing help to those more vulnerable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I can see the reasoning in school meals and breakfast clubs being free to all children but feel a lot of parents could afford to pay for this and that the money could be better used for resources in schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There currently is no music at my child's school already; Agree that free meals could be means tested	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree that these vital services should continue for children and young people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree. So long as no child is unable to access food, heating or education.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	scottish government wants these things but cannot fund them - align with what they offer and challenge them to fund this rather than the embassy and independence nonsense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	A reduction of school clothing grants to the Scottish Government level would be ok ; More publicity for other school uniform options - charities, school supply, recycling were uniform too small can be returned to school and given to other children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with this. Although, free school meals for all children shouldn't be supplied. Only for those who need it most	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Alignment with Scottish Govt funding levels is sensible approach	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	agree to an extent. I am not sure what the difference is between funding levels and council spend though to know what this actually means.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If these services continue at a lower cost, it makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Services should be provided to meet the needs of the local area and this cannot be achieved with a blanket policy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	music should be axed if savings need to be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree with this and keeping all clothing grants for children also the provisions of free school meals, milk, breakfast club etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree that these provisions are extremely important and should be maintained.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These grants have been out for years I got free meals and clothing grants for my children when they were at school times are getting harder for one parent family and the working family's	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There is very little detail in the above statement. If you're able to save this money without impacting on pupils having access to breakfasts, lunches and clothing for school then I support it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Maintenance of free meals .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Recent funding from the council has been extremely helpful. Uniform grants etc are really good. School meals not so great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This would be alright as long as the funding given to the Scottish government by Westminster was adequate enough to cover the continuation of these services at no additional cost to Scotland.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is a vital resource that needs serious consideration. Food and clothing a must... music not. Its a shame but if it is between eating and instruments then food it must be	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I do agree that this area needs to be considered however, in the current climate, many middle income families are really struggling and they are the ones who seem to be offered the least support. This needs to be seriously considered or we may end up depriving the Children who need this the most.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The free hot lunches that are provided to every child in theory is a good idea e.g no child should go hungry, however, the enormous amount of waste in both the schools and nursery does not justify the money this costs. It is a sorry sight to see this amount of food being thrown away daily.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Just need to ensure that no children who rely on breakfast clubs to provide food are not disadvantaged.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agreed. Would also suggest a used uniform drive, as many school uniforms are outgrown but still in very good condition, so having something in place to collect uniforms to distribute to those most in need would be good and save items being thrown away.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This sounds a sensible and sustainable approach to match government funding	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Doesn't look like we will be/should be making any savings here from the words being used?; I agree with the sentiments, and so we should be not declaring any savings in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should be cut back. Uniforms are not that expensive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Supporting this 100%. Anything to help out those most in need should be so without persecution.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think it is extremely important to maintain and even expand free schools meals, however I am firm believer if parents are financially able to make a contribution to music provision, they should.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree the school clothing grants should remain.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Adhere to the government guidelines only.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Great initiative.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Your comment would indicate WL is providing about Scottish Government levels. If this is the case then I would agree to align.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree. All the above are vital.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	free for all, not viable in current climate, I'm sure those who can pay, would rather that than staff/services being cut else were.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The Council should not be aiming to save money on areas where they have already received direct provision related funding by the Scottish Government and where the Council is being used solely as the conduit for this support. Otherwise I would be encouraging central Government to top slice this money from Council budgets and allocate the money directly to families requiring this support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'm not convinced it should be on councils to supply clothing. Meals should be retained but costs of music training should also not be met	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	good idea but i dont see how this is saving money? Unless provided by a seperate budget through scottish government and not through education budget set by local authorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The Scottish Government bear responsibility for the levels of these benefits and should he adhered to.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All free provision in schools should be equal to the Scottish Govt position and not increased by the Council, this makes it fairer all round and would be beneficial if it generates a saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unification of these services if it reduces red tape and bureaucracy would be beneficial	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If you think you can do this fairly and without disruption then go for it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reviewing the school clothing grants and free school meals is essential as the current benefits system ensures recipients receive sufficient financial support to clothe and feed their children without other financial support through the grant system	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As long as the level provided is enough thats ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Happy for this change to go ahead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think this is a good and crucial move especially now that families are suffering with increased energy prices and cost of living.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Pleased to hear this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If the service is still being delivered to the same standard, any saving would be beneficial	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree that help should still be available for those that need it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	in what way is instrumental music vital to anyone - it is perceived to be vital to the 2% of pupils who are entitled enough to think it is vital and to the counsellors who are rubbing your back and making you think it is vital too- it is absolutely not. Free schools meals is vital. Uniform is vital. Reducing homelessness is vital. Reducing drug deaths is vital. playing a violin badly- is not	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services are needed, but music tuition fees could be paid by parents and delivered outside of school hours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is important that help for families/school pupils who are struggling continues. I would agree with the above, however, much depends on Scottish Government and I am sorry to say their priorities are questionable at times.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think aligning these benefits should be considered. Often there are lunches thrown around the schools particularly on a Friday afternoon, which is very wasteful. I don't agree with the music provision, I would class this as an extra curricular activity and like Karate, Sports clubs etc parents don't expect the schools to pick up the cost for these other activities so why music?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These provisions are there to support for the right reasons, however, in practice, often fails in areas of socio-economic deprivation. This is mainly due to lack of support at home to engage in musical practise, forgetting to bring instruments to school - alternative has been for school to take up this role, which has limited success. Breakfast clubs have changed their offer and this has resulted in lack of update/engagement with this service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As long as the most vulnerable children do not suffer from this as many rely on these services, especially the ones regarding food	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music is an important part of education and development and should always be protected	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This saving makes no sense, if you are aligning with SG provision why is there such a high cost in the first place? Is it because of the extra payments over and above what SG already provide, if so then fine, other councils don't pay more, why are we when the cost of this has a detrimental effect on other services? this money would be better used in schools for ALL children not just those from low income families.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School meals are integral to some families and therefore these families should be supported. However not all families require this additional support so while it is a good service I am not convinced it is essential for all.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes we do not all need free school meals or subsidized breakfast and music tuition it should be means tested.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is positive for our children and young people that are from lower income households.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should have been done years ago. Those who are able to pay should be then perhaps that money could have been used more efficiently and stopped the £5 million cuts to education now! Families who need support should definitely receive this, however I am more than able to pay for my children's lunches but they have been getting it free for years!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This seems a fair basis for the council to determine resources available to these areas given the level of savings required. Reasonable the councils should base its budget on the monies that the Scottish Government have provided for policies it has agreed as new commitments that council's need to provide.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	as many families have low incomes I think this will be well received	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why wait. Just get on with it now	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free instrumental lessons should remain for all pupils. Free school meals and breakfast clubs should not be above the level paid by the Scottish government, parents receive welfare benefits to assist them in feeding their children. School clothing grant should be lowered to Scottish government paid level or abolished, parents who do not work are given welfare benefits every fortnight/month (and some who work receive top up benefits) to enable them to meet their children's needs. Alternatively, abolish the need for school uniform and let children wear their own clothes, which would negate the need for any school clothing benefits	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Could be a good thing, especially with the cost of living.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Totally agree this can affect pupils when there is a class/monetary divide.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree -	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Can only be a good thing, especially in the current economic climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sounds great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think this is fair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reasonable proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Great news!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes this is as it should be. I am in favour of this measure.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes ,theses commitments need to be left in place	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I do not see music as an "essential" provision	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	yes - no concerns with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why have you not already done this? Please go ahead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No objection	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree, sensible move	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is acceptable and makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reluctantly support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think this is a fantastic idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sounds like a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	i agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This makes sense for budget cuts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Accepted	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Maintaining clothing grant levels in line with government recommendations seems reasonable to remove "post code" lottery of payments.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Strip this back to the minimum levels rather than go above and beyond.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reduce grants to align with other councils please	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Glad that clothing grant level being maintained.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This would be benefit many and be a wonderful proposal to take forward.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think school clothing grants should be brought inline with the average amount covered by other councils. The grants aren't fairly distributed. Why pay more than other councils when you need to save money? It doesn't benefit everyone equally like free school meals for all kids do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Food poverty is getting worse and I also think meals being provided is more important than uniform. The statement doesn't say what Scottish gov funding levels mean for these services. I know breakfast club is not free in Edin and other councils so maybe bringing it in line is a fair way to reduce costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think music tuition being free at the moment means poorer families are not unfairly disadvantaged and it would be a shame for that to end but if cost savings need to be made it's definitely a nice to have rather than a necessity for the council and parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a working parent, I would be willing to pay for breakfast club & school meals to help funding go elsewhere to help education/families who are entitled to free school meals/clothing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Fully support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The council must do what is required to align itself with government requirements however I think Holyrood needs to reconsider what are the priorities for education and what outcomes we, as a society, actually need. The route we are taking at the moment is going to result in a decline in the literacy and numeracy levels attained by our children to the detriment of the country.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with this but how do you check that school clothing grants are actually spent on that, Would advertising provisions of which schools have gently worn uniforms help. this should be done in conjunction with schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If you need savings pay the level at the statutory level. These are hard decisions for hard times but they have to be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree this should be realigned to funding levels.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree meals should continue to be provided	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ok yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'm favour of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes agree, very good initiative.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree, no further comment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This makes sense. I fully support the change.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	the government should maintain the free provision in line with the Scottish government levels	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sounds like a good idea but we need to make sure the less fortunate children and those living in poverty do not go without a meal at school if the parents cannot provide them with one either.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This make sense as the Scottish Government are providing a level of funding for those provisions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	i would agree that if there are processes where exisiting funding and commitments are not affected drastically while saving money can only be a positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This proposal should have been employed years ago. It's appalling just how much tax payer's money has been squandered throughout the decades.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Continuing free school meals is good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree - the council should only spend what it receives from the Scottish Government for these services - not a penny more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Emphasis on service provision in relation to Scottish Government expectations nationally.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This makes sense - SG policies should only be implemented where SG provide the funding in the current financial context	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree, if the Scottish Government want to deliver these priorities they need to fund councils accordingly. The council would never move to universal provision given the constrained resources. The Scottish Government are overcommitting and underfunding and other council services can't bear the pain of that any longer. This isnt local prioritisation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Think this makes sense , can't overfund this. Scottish government need to fund this if want more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think this is good as there are many children who received free school meals where parents can afford to pay towards this cost.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Excellent. Meals, breakfast and music are essential. I was delighted to hear music cover is now reinstated, although My daughters were in the years in which we were forced to pay a lot of money for this service which was a disgrace and I'm sure many students had to drop music lessons because families could not afford it. Good to hear it will be covered again for families moving forward.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine. We do not see much musical instrument / lessons at the moment. Would be good if breakfast club started at 8am.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with this. It is the responsibility of the Scottish Government to properly fund school meals, breakfast clubs and IMS. In particular, the council should only spend on IMS what is given in funding by the Scottish Government. ; I agree school clothing grants should be maintained at the current level.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree with this proposal access should be for people who are on the poverty line	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree provided childrens parents/guardians should be means tested....no child should go without.....there has to be limits	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is a positive of Scottish government continues to recognise the importance of providing sustenance for body and mind.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Council should only provide if funded by Scottish Government and/or paid for by user	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As long as those most in need don't lose out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Scottish Gov should be paying for it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If kids require healthy food and clothing this is not an issue but there are people in West Lothian on benefits who are set for life and people out working for less than benefits. Maybe start cookery classes for adults. Plenty cheap food but unless they know how to cook it the cycle will continue to cost the council money. People in desperate situations are different and the uniform idea is good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs are essential for the positive start to the day a lot of our pupils need in order to settle into school and do well there. No real concerns over school meal/ instrument/ clothing grant alignment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree with the music provision at Scot Gov funding levels.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs are great but are not required by every family. The resources should be targeted at those children from low income families only.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would support this being considered, however if it impacts those most at need in our community it would be completely unacceptable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I do not agree with exceeding any levels set by Government.. if government are making promises to cloud cloth and feed children whilst at the same time cutting council budgets, then it's up to government to provide the money. If they don't provide enough they should be asked for more. If they don't and are breaking thier electoral promises then it should be made public. If they then punish the council by cutting ther budget at a more severe level then this should be made public..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree to keeping free services the same as it is with Scottish Government funding	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree with the school meals all day long! ; Free music lessons! Where is that going to help someone run a house a pay their bills; How about free courses! Cooking skills. How to do a washing how to make beds! How to budget for a weekly shop! How about introducing the theory test for senior students and support them in that ! Partner up with the AA to introduce lessons for kids ! It's more realistic than free music lessons! That's for a minority! Nearly everyone wants or needs to drive! Teach them about drugs and the pit falls the dangers and addiction! Teach them to deal with their ACES! Prepare them for the big bad world we now live in!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comments. The Council is committed to providing both instrumental music tuition and appropriate life skills.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why not?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	as far as there are no cuts in this thats good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Seems reasonable but I think school uniform costs should be minimised. There is no place for blazers or other such archaic clothing in rainy Scotland.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Fully agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is a great idea if the Scottish government funds do not cover the costs that should be highlighted to the public and the government. More funds should be provided to WLC if needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There needs to be a review	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This is what is proposed, following analysis of consultation responses.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	For people who are not working or are in problem is good..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Review	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes, keep school clothing grants the same and try not to impact free breakfast's because that would affect children in poverty the most.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is vital we keep these provisions	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keeping free school music tuition;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't understand why you would reduce the funding for this vital service, reduce the amount of monkeys in suits , but no you wouldn't do that just take food n clothes away from those in need shocking	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	To be honest WLC has already more or less destroyed the instrumental music provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes this is the most important as everyone is struggling with money just now so myself personally rely on the school clothing grants and free hot meals for my children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Benefits to the less well off should not be a race to the bottom to other councils poor levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The nurture of our schoolchildren should be a key priority. They are the future, no child should not be unable to concentrate because they are hungry in this day and age,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is so disgusting that we as a nation still have to feed and cloth our kids so they can attend school. If we had a system that truly looked after it's people they should never have to go cap in hand. Schools funds should not be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It's absolutely imperative that the school clothing grant, free school meals to all pupils not just for P1-P5. I am a single parent who has a child in P6 and have recently taken residence of my 3 year old niece. I work full time and I cannot afford to pay the £1.96 per day for a school meal. So this results in packed lunches. Which adds more onto my shopping bill and sometimes we struggle.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Cut nearly a million pounds while inflation races away, but improve provision. Fiction.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am against anything that impacts on young people - they are the most impacted by poverty and there is nothing they can do it their age - we must keep services that support our most vulnerable and enable them to have the best chances in life.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does this mean that less children would qualify for free school meals at a point in time where families are already struggling to pay for basics and parents are having to make decisions between heating and eating?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Removing funded music provision will be a disaster for West Lothian and the council have tried before - it's not the right thing to do	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Do not adjust this part of budget as i feel and fear it will most definitely be needed by more children family over coming years	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Vital services should be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Support in these areas is very important.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music is so important to the development of the child and should not be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Align??? School services should not be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Align = reduce given there will be a saving. Not acceptable. The council should be supporting our poorest and most vulnerable children regardless of cost. There must be a real terms increase in support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There is a vast difference between deliver and provide. As described above it can only be assumed services like music will be cut....a wrong move....if parents have to give more financial support towards this then the elitism WLC have tried to eradicate for years will be born again. Pupils will have their experience of the arts restricted or removed. So much for developing the 'whole child'.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Surely clothing grants need to be increased, to match the increased cost of clothing?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again the end user, ie, us will take the hit for your cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Needs more money put into school meals as a lot of secondary school pupils are feeling the cost of living and are spending all their money at break times because they are so hungry and then not being able to have lunch.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are important things to keep because families rely on this help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Pupils from deprived homes have a difficult life, having a decent school uniform and a school meal may be the only constant in their lives, don't think this is an area where any savings should be made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Should definitely be free school meals for all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It seems that the proposal is to provide less school meals, breakfast clubs and instrumental music provision than currently otherwise how could substantial savings be made? In my view, this would be a lamentable, retrograde step.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is not possible to support this - a reduction in supports for children and young people during a cost-of-living crisis is unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'd be anxious that in our current cost of living crisis more and more families are struggling and children will go hungry and miss out. I don't think all school meals should be free but you have to be in significant poverty to qualify under previous calculations - why not charge a small cost and make half the savings. Please don't undervalue mental well-being by cutting music again!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school music - very important. Allows non academic children to learn another skill. It also has many educational benefits.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs are a valuable way of ensuring children can start the day well and should be encouraged.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs are VITAL for many families I support via my job, no cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children should not suffer under council cuts. Children and families are struggling enough as it is and this could be detrimental to many families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	"align free school meal, breakfast club and instrumental music provision with Scottish Government funding levels". What does this actually mean?!? No child should ever go to school hungry and any persons attempt to reduce the funding for this should hang their head in shame. Too many teachers cry when asked about the kids in their schools and tell tales about some of whom have no jackets for the winter and the only meal is eaten at school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental music tuition needs to remain free for our families. Music is one of the best tools for closing attainment gap. These young musicians contribute so much to community, schools and council!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals and breakfast club are an absolute lifeline for some families in our school community. Our children might not be getting hot or healthy meals at home therefore rely heavily on being well fed at school. Please do not cut food provisions. We do not have the school funds to be able to feed our children when they are hungry if this gets cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, I think making big cuts in areas that support children is something to be done with extreme caution. Music provision is so minimal as it is and school meals are probably being a god send to some families during this cost of living crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The children are suffering across the country with the austerity they need these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Proposal is not clear? Disguising the end impact on pupils. As above, any potentially negative impacts on school children/education should be avoided.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Considering the socio economic status of the majority of students in our area (WL) I think it disgraceful the council would pat themselves on the back for cutting programs that are literally the difference between a child going hungry or a child not having uniform. Disgusting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is no time to make savings on school meals. More and more children in WL are using food banks, more children need free school meals, not less!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are essential. Music classes should be still provided free of charge	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services in schools should be increased, not reduced. Otherwise children and school staff will be detrimentally impacted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'm not sure what this even means. Some children only have one hot meal a day, in school. This would add huge financial pressure to already struggling families. Inflation will mean families receiving, and some who are not eligible for, benefits will be living far below the poverty line. In cold houses with not enough food. The last thing we should do is stop feeding children who are hungry. Also the instruction service allows for musical enrichment, so important for long-term mental health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does this mean in alignment with Scottish funding. Your argument would be strengthened if you gave some actual figures to substantiate your points instead of generalised smoke and mirrors comments. Misleading. Surely, there is a very good reason that West Lothian has offered more in the past, because there is a significant need. In the middle of an economic crisis with families being forced into economical precarious positions and the council wants to take away more. Shameful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a single dad of 1, and working in a local distribution centre as a forklift driver, i would like to say that help never reach me and I have to pay for everything, others are spending time with children, not working and live in a council housing, that is question to those people and believe me, I am struggling, safety shoes is my daily foot wear. Thanks.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Data and research clearly shows the link between a poor diet and health and educational achievements. We must focus on providing free, nutritious meals within a budget but without cutting costs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Don't care about music as only posh families who take this up. Free school meals being taken away is outrageous- at a time like this? Who will feed them? How will they learn if they aren't fed? Have you read the about cost of the school day? Do some work on auditing the canteens and processes before you remove the right to food. Outsource or tender contracts more efficiently to make your savings don't add to already disadvantaged kids difficulties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services are needed now more than ever	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It would be extremely regrettable should instrumental provision become chargeable or music opportunities for young people decreased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children certainly benefit from free school meals and help with uniform. Sometimes that is the only hot meal they receive as times are really hard just now. Help with uniforms also makes them the same as every other pupil so they are not embarrassed. Not everyone needs help but a lot certainly benefits from it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a parent of a child who benefits from free musical tuition we could not afford to offer her such an opportunity at this time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free provisions should be targeted at those who need it and not provided to all. While I appreciate not paying for my daughter's school meals, I am in the fortunate position of being able to afford to pay, and should. The provision of education services, including music, should be funded for all and should be a core part of the curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free breakfast club is an essential service in many schools in West Lothian. To realign with Scottish Government will not align with Addressing the poverty gap, and will impact on raising attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Musical tuition should be provided for all children, not the elite whose parents can afford private tuition.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Just don't make any cuts to these services , they're life savers to many	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental tuition was removed then re-instated - please let it continue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	At this time there should be no cuts to lunch and breakfast club provision our kids are hungry and for many it is their only hot food.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Do not reduce it not clothing grants.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Our region has a long and proud tradition of musical and in particular brass tuition that has led to world class professionals as well as many talented amateurs this should not be reduced by going to the minimum levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	In times like this with the cost of living, this would be of a massive disadvantage to our learners in WLC through cutting the budget for vital services such as free school meals and breakfast club. If a child is unable to have access to a nutritional meal, it makes their access to education unavailable as their needs are not being met. Additionally, cuts to music provision would be detrimental to many learners who find a passion within this area and may be disengaged in other aspects of the curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are all important services that should be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	In the current economic climate I find it morally repugnant that you would chose to make cuts that effect children and some of our most vulnerable families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are vital services that should not be reduced. You could save money by not providing free lunches to management who are paid well enough and don't need a free meal daily.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, unsure how this would impact my costs. For example the free breakfast club is vital to allow me to continue to work. Any extra costs in this area would be a massive issue for myself and other parents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is very worrying indeed. This suggests that we are currently going beyond relative funding levels from Scot Gov and that there is room to pare back our current provision. The last time WL introduced charging for the Instrumental Music Service, scores upon scores of children handed back their musical instruments - sometimes doing so in tears. With the negative impact of Covid, combined with the introduction of charges (which surely flies in the face of an ethos of equity and inclusion?), the number of pupils opting to study music in the senior phase slumped. This will ultimately have an effect on school attainment - with 21 out of 23 of our Higher cohort last year achieving an A pass. Our strong musical heritage in West Lothian has been built up over many years. It has been hard won - and has taken much work and dedication to grow and preserve it. All of this can be wrecked in a trice - but could take a generation to recover if it is damaged. Instrumental music staff provide an invaluable contribution to pupils, both to pupils who are sitting National Qualifications and to those sitting no exams. The service contributes much to school ethos, is inclusive, and provides self-esteem and a sense of achievement to some pupils who may not be high academic achievers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keep free school meals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keep free school meals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Disagree, as above, educational is absolutely vital and we should be supporting it above all else	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian have a proud history of going above-and-beyond the minimum requirements as laid out from Scottish Government in terms of universal offerings as well as a rich local history regarding instrumental music. Any proposals that would impact on either universal provisions or on the delivery of the high-quality instrumental music service are unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian has a proud history of going above-and-beyond the minimum requirements as laid out from Scottish Government in terms of universal offerings, as well as a rich local history regarding instrumental music. Any proposals that would impact on either universal provisions or on the delivery of the high-quality instrumental music service are unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian have a proud history of going above-and-beyond the minimum requirements as laid out from Scottish Government in terms of universal offerings as well as a rich local history regarding instrumental music. Any proposals that would impact on either universal provisions or on the delivery of the high-quality instrumental music service are unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It has been great to see how innovative WLC has been with this provision and it would be so sad to see a U turn with this. Especially music provision	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Every child in all schools, Primary and Academy must obtain free school meal as the increase of cost of living.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Universal Free School Meals is the responsibility of the Scottish Government.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	890k of cuts with the same service. It looks too good to be true, and I am afraid it will result in cuts of a service that help a lot of children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	So in a climate where more people are struggling to heat their own homes you want to cut some provisions that stop young and vulnerable people from starving. Churches are offering to give the Council access to their buildings to help with keeping people warm, Offering them food and you want to go on record and cut these vital services. WLC should be proud of what they provide and continue with this policy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The free school meals is a must in the current economic climate. The meals kids get at school could be all that some kids get now given how hard even those who were considered comfortably wealthy will now be struggling to pay for everything	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals and breakfast club are a fantastic service and totally needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The instrumental music provision I have personal experience of, my son was part of 3 of the instrumental orchestras in West Lothian and went on to be a member of Edinburgh Youth Orchestra and gained some amazing life experiences playing in venues in Glasgow, Aberdeen and the fringe in Edinburgh. This was only possible due to the provision of free instrumental lessons. I also campaigned alongside others a few years ago when they were looking to abolish this provision and make it a fee paying service, all children deserve to expand their talent regardless of their families financial situation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children and parents are struggling with cost of living. More is actually needed, not less. This would have disastrous consequences for our kids.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please do not cut instrumental music provision. It provides children with another outlet for their energies, especially if they have other educational issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is critical that the council continues to fund free school meals, breakfast clubs and music provision. This is so important due to the increase in the cost of living. The prices of groceries has increased as has the cost of energy and fuel. Everyone is struggling at the moment and children should not be left cold and hungry. The continuation of school clothing grants all really helps.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel that these free services are vital for our children and young people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The provision of instrumental music tuition is vital...there's no way I could have afforded to let my son try trumpet for the year without the government funding. It's such an important thing to be able to let all pupils have a go if they want to-not just the wealthier ones.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes, with a decrease in parental finances our children will suffer. I fee; these services should continue to meet pupil needs and give them the best start in life.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This would have a huge impact on their wellbeing and learning and further increase the poverty gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This will harm those who cannot afford childcare and allow them to get out to work. It will harm those in a time when people are struggling with paying their energy bills/ mortgage/ rent and will put families under undue stress. Children do not learn well in this circumstance and the gap between the haves and have-nots will increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Potentially limiting this important service to only FSM children will have a huge impact on children and families wellbeing. There are already immense pressures on families in the current climate and this will only heighten the stress, increasing the poverty gap even further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Potentially limiting this important service to only FSM children will have a huge impact on children and their wellbeing. There are already immense pressures on families in the current climate and this will only heighten the stress, creating a poverty gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Limiting those entitled to free school meals and breakfast clubs at a time where families are already experiencing financial pressures will lead to an increased poverty gap. Families are already having to chose between heating and eating and schools are seeing an increase in children coming to school without snacks or suitable lunches.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Potentially reducing the threshold will have a significant effect on children and families wellbeing. There are already immense pressures on families in the current climate and this will only heighten the stress and poverty gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If this results in a reduction in availability, then this is not an avenue that should be explored - the financial saving in the short-term is more than outweighed by the negative impact on our young learners both now and in the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No money should be cut from school budgets! More money should be allowed to schools and less to bonuses for higher management within the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Also, with the cost of living crisis the demand for breakfast clubs etc will surely increase and these areas should be for investment rather than budget savings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does this mean for instrumental music? With the amount of money being suggested saved in this area, but demand increasing for instrumental music this seems like it might mean less provision? Also, with the cost of living crisis the demand for breakfast clubs etc will surely increase and these areas should be for investment rather than budget savings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keeping these services are essential	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All children should be given the best possible start in life. Continued free school meals and clothing grants are key to ensuring this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'm not convinced that's going to save money	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals and school clothing budgets will be essential for supporting families moving forward, when the cost of living is increasing so rapidly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is essential to keep all of these services and not cut funding	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs are a vital resource and should not be cut especially given the current financial climate and the amount of young people living in poverty in WL. Cuts to instrumental music tuition will result in music only being accessible to the rich. This cannot happen. Music is an important part of our culture and heritage, build essential skills in young people and must be protected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are vital to so many people and shouldn't be cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Further cuts to an already struggling and under performing education department are indefensible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free Instrumental music tuition cannot go! When charges were introduced for this a few years back, it completely wiped out our instrumental pupils. Our catchment area is of a very mixed demographic and this led to a very unequitable situation where many pupils that wanted to learn an instrument, could not. This obviously then impacted on our uptake at senior level and hindered the progression into further education in music completely. I would be honestly disgusted if there were to be charges brought in for this again and will always advocate for my pupils and equity and equality in their education opportunities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals and breakfast clubs are a lifeline to many families especially during the cost-of-living crisis. I'm assuming Scottish Government funding levels represents a cut to the service currently provided and that's simply not acceptable. Hungry children cannot learn. We need to make sure all our young people are provided with the nutritious meals they need to allow them to concentrate and fulfil their learning potential.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian has a proud history of providing music tuition. This would also be a cut to a service which has had so much trauma already over the last years. Learning to play an instrument is beneficial on many fronts including with mental health and wellbeing and increasing learning potential in young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	In terms of the 'closing the gap' agenda I believe it will be devastating to cut these services. In light of the ongoing financial crisis happening around us it seems unbelievable that another attack on the least fortunate of our children could be considered. We all know our families are currently facing some of the most challenging financial times in memory. The way things look there will be many working families who are extremely stretched financially. The expansion of free meals has been one of the most successful innovations recently - we know our children are regularly receiving good, healthy food - and so do their parents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This proposal does not lead to a significant saving of money for the council but could have hug implications for families already struggling with the cost of living at the moment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Food is a human right. We should not be considering any cuts to providing what meals we can to children and young people. In this economic crisis, it would be good to remember that it's not just families on benefits who are struggling but also working families. Anything helps.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music and the Arts are a type of intelligence, don't take away the opportunity for young people to excel in an area they feel happiest in. We need all sorts of experts in this world, music should not just be for the well-off or those that can afford it. We should embrace those children who show intelligence in music and art, not penalise them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should stay in place to help with the cost of feeding and clothing kids for school as it is costly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would be concerned that ALL West Lothian's young people would miss out on the opportunity to experience music/instrumental provision. West Lothian has an excellent reputation in this field which should be allowed to continue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No. These services are essential and we cannot try to make "savings" on pupils hungry stomachs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There are already no piano or singing teachers in the council. The instrumental staff that are employed are stretched as it is with some visiting as many as 10 different schools and STILL not every pupil has the opportunity to learn an instrument.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian prides itself on the delivery of breakfast clubs and instrumental music provision. Cutting these to bring them in line to Government levels would be detrimental to staff and more importantly pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If the council is proposing to cur anything that helps the most disadvantaged in the community it is obviously a poor idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The school meal provision and school clothing provision should stay the same.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please don't cut the instrumental music service. Add to what the government are funding and create a fabulous service that as many students can access as possible!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The loss of instrumental provision would make this hard to ever access for so many families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	At our primary school, there were only 3 instruments available. They all went to children from advantaged backgrounds. It was unclear what the criteria for being chosen was. My daughter missed out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again these services should not be minimised especially in the current climate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are needed in every way to help children and parents do not take any of these away	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a teacher, I can see the rich and varied experiences instrumental music provision gives our young people, including those from the most deprived backgrounds. It is a travesty that instrumental music provision could be considered for cuts. The Council should not underestimate the strength of feeling from pupils, parents and teachers alike when it comes to instrumental music provision in the authority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian Council has a long and proud history of instrumental music provision, going above and beyond the Scottish Government levels. I benefited from this myself as a pupil at a West Lothian Council school, through involvement in school and county orchestras, even going on a trip to Germany.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would like to see breakfast clubs maintained at current level, huge benefit to kids getting settled into school environment before going to class as well as obvious benefits to those who need food too.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As someone who has 3 children & currently on benefits the help given is a godsend & I hope the assistance continues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree we need to keep the clothing grants and other funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reduce the school clothing grant to be online with other councils	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There should be no cutbacks on any of these services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian have a proud history of going above-and-beyond the minimum requirements as laid out from Scottish Government in terms of universal offerings as well as a rich local history regarding instrumental music. Any proposals that would impact on either universal provisions or on the delivery of the high-quality instrumental music service are unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Given cost of living crisis trimming the provision of free school meals, breakfast clubs and music provision seem especially bleak and counter productive to stated council aims.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	You are not clear at all what you mean by 'aligning to Scottish government funding'. The inference is that you will be cutting free meal provision. A mistake in a council that desperately needs it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should be reduced not all children need this provision should only be made available to those in need for free school meals and breakfast clubs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel strongly that all pupils should be given access to a free school meal and breakfast club. Music tuition should be free for those who are selected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel there is space for cuts with regards to provision of lunches. I am in the position where I can afford to provide lunch for my children, some people are not and lunch provision should be provided to them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music provision in schools is also an important service that will have a knock on generationally with the numbers of children growing up engaged with music being drastically reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs and free school meals ensure that children who are at risk of not getting regular meals are fed. It is a vital service and these children should not be penalised by the councils need to save money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The uptake of free school meals and breakfast provision is very high in the school that I work in being in an area of multiple deprivation. I think if some of the families were for example to pay for breakfast this would impact on some of the most disadvantaged families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The arts need to be supported in schools. Music should be part of the curriculum...its so important ...some children are not book learners ...May excel at other creative lessons such as music etc. Without music being taught there would be no choirs or school orchestras or bands	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	For many children, the free school meal served in school is the only hot meal they have in a day. In the current economic crisis, many families rely on support with meals and uniform as the cost of living rises.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The way you have played about with Instrumental Music Provision in the last few years, it's surprising anyone takes it up. Sounds like more cuts. Very poor.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I want all these services to remain the same or get more budget.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Given the figure quoted, this appears to be a swathing cost cutting measure, without any targeting whatsoever, unless I'm very much mistaken.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are crude service cuts which the Council should shun. It is chicanery to propose to "continue to deliver these vital services" while stripping out nearly £1m. There is no honest statement here of what will be cut and who will lose. I write as a pensioner who will not be directly affected, but if this cannot be a meaningful consultation if the impact of the cut is not described in plain terms.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I find this very scary. Some young people have no food at home and rely on the amount of nutritional support offered by West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does align mean a reduction!! This is a necessary provision and should not be reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I assume the word "align" is code for REDUCE.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Many kids rely on free school meals and breakfast clubs. This cannot be allowed to happen. This hits the most vulnerable kids in Scotland. Is that what Holyrood wants ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a local authority, our young people benefit greatly from current levels of provision in these areas. Surely, we can't be advocating a change which is not an improvement. Moving to the lowest common denominator is not progress.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Retain this provision	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I believe that scaling back on free school provisions, when the Scottish government have promised free school meals for all children, is unacceptable. In a time when there are more people falling in to poverty than ever and harder times to come, failing to deliver on these promises is simply immoral.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If it hadn't been for the free music provision, guitar lessons, I wouldn't have been able to afford them. I noted that (in Linlithgow) only the middle class kids got the expensive instruments but that's fine. No one asks for someone to play the trumpet at a party.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These essential services for the most vulnerable children must be protected. Children cannot control the finances of their parents and therefore should not be subject to cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are vital to the equity of children, it is imperative this support remains at current levels or is expanded further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	do not cut these vital services. so many kids rely on. if we dont supportbour kids with free musical tuition and instruments today then we are going to struggle to fill our orchestras tomorrow. ; once again. do not cut any school budgets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure any savings here would be good news for our children, children shouldn't feel isolated or different if they have free meals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again it sounds like you want to cut food from children. This is a bad idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, this sounds like it's the most vulnerable that are being targeted, breakfast clubs are vitally important to kids and parents. Instrumental tuition should be means tested.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School should be free, instrumental music included. It is morally wrong to charge for this. Free school meals and breakfast clubs provide a vital function for many pupils it is their only hot meals in a week. The council should consider their moral obligations at a time of increased household costs when looking to reduce this area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These provisions should not be restricted further and should be offered to all those in need.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, these are real terms cuts which would negatively impact many. It would move music lessons out of reach of many of our pupils whose parents cant afford them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music (instrument)teaching is essential and beneficial for us as a society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	You are already behind on the delivery of free school meals, this should've been in place for P1 to P7 long ago. For some children this is likely to be there only decent hot meal of the day, you will be even more a disgrace than you already are if you take this away.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are essential services which need to continue! I am sure there will be people who can pay, who would be willing to pay rather lose or see these services cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Disgusting taking free meals and breakfast clubs away from the most vulnerable in society whose families are already struggling in this financial crisis. This would put children in danger of being hungry at school and would put huge financial pressure on families. Really shocked that under equity the council feel this is a cost cutting option. We are not closing the attainment gap by doing this to children in West Lothian.music tuition is so important and should not only be for those that can afford it. Music is an expressive art and is part of the curriculum not an add on if you can afford to pay for it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music provision is taught by qualified teachers and provides the opportunity for children to flourish and excel. Removal of this opportunity profoundly impacts the wellbeing, education and development of children and the arts in Scotland.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This would have a negative impact on the quality of music provision, with the biggest impact on those of least advantage but does seem reasonable considering the saving that needs to be made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Punish the most vulnerable children in society for fault that should be laid at the doors of the wealthy? Need more be said?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music is part of the curriculum and therefore should be free. Learning to swim is a life skill and should also be free. Reading for pleasure - all school kids should have access to their local library - visits by library bus!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, we know this decision makes things worse for people. How on earth can anybody make a decision like this? But there's no money. Why is there never any pushback? This is an absolute disaster and anybody who pretends otherwise is a charlatan. I do really feel for those who are having to make these decisions. I live in WL, I have a young son in school here, and I teach here. I honestly despair at what is happening.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If clothing grant payment amounts matched the minimum amounts set by the Scottish Government i.e. £120 primary and £150 secondary then a saving could be made. It should not always be a contest between local authorities as to who is paying the highest. If needed the amount given to each school to run their clothing store could be increased allowing schools to support the most needy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are vital and essential services, and should be preserved	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why is music provision lumped in here? The offer of free school music tuition should be provided to give children the opportunity to experience and develop their skills. Not all parents are able to provide these kind of opportunities and as an education establishment that is our role to offer a wide experience of the curriculum. Music specialist are a must to provide this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again - hitting the most vulnerable again - the children. Some children don't have breakfast or a hot meal as their parents can't afford it!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am confused by this. Do West Lothian council currently offer more provision than the government funds? Please do not remove/reduce provisions of food and funding for clothing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't see how any savings could be made in these services in the current climate when costs of food, clothing and resources are set to increase again.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children from vulnerable families will not be given the opportunity to participate in music. It will lead to a 2 tier system whereby only those who can afford can access.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I Hope that instrumental funding will continue as it has made a huge, positive difference to so many kids who would never be able to access it if charges were reintroduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The current economic climate is extremely precarious. I strongly support free school meals and breakfast clubs. Families and young people are going to suffer with the cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Any reduction in school funding for music provision will decimate the music in west lothian which is only just starting to show small signs of recovery post covid and the previous music funding fiasco.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Too many families are struggling with the cost of living at present so these services within schools are a priority and much needed provision. Staffing essential for these services. Investment not reductions required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Just means poorer children will not have access to music provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are vital services that cannot be dropped.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Young people thrive in West Lothian due to the extended support they receive from this, taking this away to be more in line with the minimum would cause more students to slip through the net of disparity. This meaning that more students are left without the support they need due to parents/carers not being able to 'fit into a box'	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please continue to provide those facilities as there are always a significant portion of the population in Scotland that depends on it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This needs to be protected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Cutting costs for the needy mmmmmmm	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Pupils who require free provisions should get it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School meals must be maintained. .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	breakfast clubs must be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	clothing grants must be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are more important now than ever before.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	breakfast club are more important now than ever before.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	school clothing grants are more important now than ever before.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reduce all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Any cuts are deeply disappointing in this area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is a retrograde step	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	kids lose out again	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There should be no change here	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This cannot be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unclear why this is not already the case	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	IM not happy with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental music tuition and the provision of free breakfasts etc are an essential for some pupils. Many pupils live just beyond the income amount that qualifies them for these services. This would result in pupils attending school having not had any breakfast or access to a hot meal at all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	It is intended to keep both provisions and fund these in line with Scottish Government funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental music tuition allows pupils to build self esteem and skills that would not be available to them otherwise.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If the musical tuition returns to being charged for I think you are then denying this opportunity to many children, families can't always afford the £300ish annual charge. Music tuition should remain free to all- music is surely part of the curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Realignment sounds like fewer and I am opposed to any cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We have already had the fiasco of you asking people to pay for instrumental and it caused a huge problem. The instrumental departments in West Lothian used to be something to be proud of and again this is something else you have destroyed. There is now not enough pupils who play instruments to run bands etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Many rely on free school meal entitlement and breakfast clubs. Some families may be above the FME bracket but only just above it, meaning that a loss of these provisions would cause many problems for families, at a time where the cost of living crisis is affecting the majority of families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental music should remain free as this is a great facility for pupils to develop outside Cfe. There is a great team in WLC already who work on this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Maintain existing levels where possible, but also ensure students with diet conditions can access these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I disagree, free provision of services to school age children should be maintained as an investment in West Lothians future particularly as the crunch on family finances will mean that these services are even more appreciated by children who may otherwise go hungry	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I do not think there should be any further reduction in music instrumental tuition. This has been proved to be beneficial to young people's education and the opportunities should be enhanced and not reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think more money than they're allocated now.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Musical tuition should be free for all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs and after school clubs help working parents in fulltime or part time positions which in turn helps build our economy. To stop this would leave a lot of parents paying over the odds for childcare and resulting in more unemployment and benefits. These need to be supported more	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Our schools are struggling enough already, they cannot take any more cuts! Our kids deserve much better state schooling than they currently get! The gap between state and independant schools is widening and it simply is not fair. It's not our kids fault the country is in tatters, but if we don't arm them with a decent education then how are they going to be the change that fixes this mess!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children need clothes and food, i would NOT support this cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental provision was previously under threat with the indication that pupils would not receive this as part of their tuition and a fee would be introduced. This massively undermines a child's learning and growth potential and detracts from their learning experiences and future skills and career aspirations.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	IF THIS IS NOT BROKEN DONT FIX IT.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is fantastic that this is a priority and when we start making cuts on this then the gap widens and the most deprived children suffer most although everyone suffers. There is so much talent from West Lothian and this is something which should be capitalised on and celebrated. I don't think we are regarded as a really 'cultured' area where the arts and talent are thriving and I think this needs to be embedded in the curriculum more with real life, relatable examples and successes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The provision should rise to match inflation levels, otherwise it is an effective cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We cannot go any cheaper on school food. At present what the children get at lunch time (first hand experience) is shocking. The quality of food supplied by the contractors is poor and seems to be heading to mainly vegetarian which the children are not eating.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	School meals are produced in line with legislation. The new legislation limits what we can offer and the frequency which has made it very difficult to provide a wide and varied menu.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Disagree. Do not cut funding to education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, this proposal hits the most vulnerable and this reads like a political game between the local authority and the Scottish Government. Considering this relates to the most vulnerable children, this is not a good look for any local authority and merely adds misery onto struggling families to prove a point.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Important for poor er families	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Continue this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Important to keep these	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I do not support any cuts to these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Don't think anything should change with free school meals / grants . Especially with cost of living crisis, money is tight even in a 2 parent working household.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sorry again we have do not have much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events, Leaving EU etc. My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Spot on	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is terrible news, we are in for a rough time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Do not do this. Keep everything at the current levels. West Lothian have an extensive history of producing excellent musicians. You quite happily use them to show off (60th anniversary concert recently) cut anything for IMS and you would be called, quite rightly, hypocrites.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Find cuts elsewhere!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I as a parent really rely on school clothing grants	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These things are seen as 'extras' but for many young people they are vital. West Lothian has a long tradition of excellence in instrumental music provision. Additional cuts will decimate it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, this is abhorrent. There are more families accessing food banks now than ever. The already feeble free school meal provision that is in place- with an extremely low means threshold, means that children of single parents and low income families are unable to buy lunch or can only afford water. Teachers in schools are buying stock of breakfast bars/crisps/water/tights/school uniform etc and keeping this aside for kids who do not have the money or luxury of receiving free school meals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	That sounds okay as they are vital services, particularly for our most vulnerable children!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There should be no cuts to this area given the cost of living crisis where many pupils in West Lothian struggle to access opportunities to improve their final positive destination. Many schools already run a food bank to support struggling families outside of school hours never mind during the school day. Instrumental tuition is a staple in the West Lothian school area with hundreds of pupils taking up the opportunity for free instrumental tuition which has enabled them to join the West Lothian school brass band which has seen decades of success in Scotland and in Europe, touring to play concerts and then go on to attend the royal conservatoire in glasgow or play as part of NYBBS and played in tours around the world. The thought of withdrawing that service to pupils in West Lothian is outrageous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Every child in West Lothian should be entitled to free meals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We need these to support families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All school pupils should receive a free school meal regard of family income. Many pupils do not access their fsm due to stigmatisation, opening this to everyone would remove the barriers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Also must stay in place to nurture young people and their needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, saddening to think that the council had money for talking bins but ensuring children have food is not a greater priority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Any free provisions should be maintained especially as a result of covid. In particular instrumental music tuition which has such benefits on health and well-being. Any other measure would be counterproductive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again the most vulnerable of our children will be affected and the children who don't seem to be in need, but in fact are will lose out. We should be investing our money in future generations.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The charging for musical instruments changed the musical opportunities in school meaning loads of kids gave up, houses not low earners still struggled to afford an instrument.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The IMS has already seen cuts in previous years (Cutting all Guitar Teachers in (2016) from the service, in favour of Wind and Brass - is clearly appalling and bordering on discrimination). There is very little provision for Guitar Teachers in schools yet the demand in school to learn this instrument is greater than Wind and Brass.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast Clubs are important - supporting low income families and those who are working. Free school meals - equally important as many children are living in poverty.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel breakfast club should still be open to everyone and should not be only if you are getting certain benefits. The one that needs to be considered is that the cost of the uniforms might go up with the cost of living and should really be looked at wether there is a way of making uniforms cheaper to buy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	.; ; We are concerned that changes to resourcing will have a negative impact on teaching and; learning.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There are families in West lothian that can not afford to feed their children, breakfast club and free school meals are essential.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I also do not support a reduction in music lessons. This should be an option for any child who wants it not just those who can afford to pay;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please do not penalise our children. If you are going to offer meals, it needs to be good quality, nutritious and filling food.; ; I do not support any part of this proposal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children need to eat. The current levels keep children fed so that they can learn. Hungry kids cannot learn. ; ; Music provision is pathetic and lacking now. To reduce what little is offered would be to tell children that the arts don't matter (which, due to lack of music and visual art education as it is happens to already be the message...)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I trust that those who have been receiving free school meals, breakfast clubs & clothing grants will continue to do so.; Music tuition etc is already limited and I would not like to see further cuts as arts education is incredibly important for mental health (my children continuing their instrument tuition over teams during lockdown was a real life and sanity saver some days) and is something I wish more children had access to.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Think there should be no school branded uniforms instead should be the same for every school. ; Children should receive a lunch and this should be for primary and high school it could be the only hot meal they get.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	1E Would oppose any reduction in School Meals budget and Clothing grants	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental music is part of education should remain 'free' for all. Education should be covered by our council tax!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Just feed the children. Do the right thing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No, these are vital for those that can least afford in our area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The funding provided by the Scottish government for Instrumental Music lessons is less than half of the actual cost of running the service. The IMS budget and staffing has been cut at every budget review over the past two decades. Reducing the budget to this level will mean half of the staff would not be able to be employed. If there is half the number of staff how can each pupil/school receive an acceptable amount of time for their lesson? Is the council going to resort to removing some disciplines as it has tried previously? I have been a Music Instructor with West Lothian Council for over thirty years and have seen it continuously devalued but still called on to provide young musicians for public concerts such as the recent event to celebrate Livingston's 60th anniversary.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These support provisions should be made available at no charge to all who would benefit from them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	are we seriously thinking about taking away food form kids? that didn't go well for Thatcher, it wont work for you either.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keep free school meals for children, that should be a much higher priority than music.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Maintain current levels of funding	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This needs to be kept	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agreed, it is vital that children at least get a free meal at school especially with so many families struggling to feed their children at home.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Strongly disagree that any savings should be made at the expense of the lower income families in our communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School meals and uniform grants to deserving student must not be disturbed in this crisis time where inflation is already touching its peaks	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	People are in poverty unable to feed themselves or heat their homes. School meals are a lifeline for many. To take this away is barbaric!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think free school meals and instrumental music provision should remain in place	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental music tuition, school bands and other provisions by the instrumental music service are already limited, and I would oppose any further cuts to their existence. This is due to the importance of arts education for mental health, and due to equity. As a parent of an S6 pupil who has been given the opportunity to play an instrument, have weekly lessons, be part of school bands and WL bands, I can not emphasize enough how important this has been to their enjoyment of school, confidence and learning perseverance and skills as well as nurturing their wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How could there be a cost saving. This can only mean that less families will receive help putting more into poverty than already is.. More funding is needed not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	You cannot cut the support for those who most need it. You will just pay for it later or elsewhere. How can children learn if they are hungry or cold.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't think you should cut breakfast clubs and free school meals you can cut the uniform	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has agreed the provision of school clothing grant during budget deliberations.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	in my opinion funding it is not highly level for P6/7 should be extended; most people could not afford school uniforms	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Provision will be extended in line with Government funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	That sounds like maintaining what we've got whilst reducing funding. How does that work?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Specific ending will now be provided by the Scottish Government
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unsure of the changes that would flow from the "alignment" of free school meals, breakfast clubs and instrument music provision, with Scottish Government funding levels. Without this knowledge, not sure how significant the changes would be or the impact this will have on the West Lothian students. But an £890K saving is a significant goal to achieve.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	So by aligning to Sc Govt funding does that mean cut if you are looking to save £890k?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Is this just for parents on benefits as there are more working poor more than ever?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue at present, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If a saving of £890,000 is to be made do we assume that the current provision is in excess of Scottish Government funding levels? If so, how much in excess, who would be impacted, would this be across all schools, what options would parents have to pay for this themselves in order to retain current levels etc etc etc. Another "consultation" question that does not provide any detailed information to allow meaningful engagement.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sorry where is the saving here?????	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does alignment mean, obviously a cut in spending or quality of provision as you are making savings. You may still provide these services as you say, but not as good as before I epuld imagine.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Where are the savings to be made, exactly?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure what this means	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There are too many young people going hungry, especially with the cost of living crisis and with the financial hit people have had with the pandemic. I think school meals should be free for everyone in accordance with UNCRC 'the right to food' which is a basic requirement. Currently this is not being met and more and more young people are being forced into food insecurity.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Access to free school meals will continue in line with national funding
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Shrug. Not really clear what you want me to comment on here	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	"The council would continue to deliver these vital services for our children and young people". So how do you achieve £890000 saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This sounds like a reduction without you quite saying that - it must be to save money. Who would it impact? You acknowledge the services are vital so who's losing out?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Slightly more detail. Align? Euphemism for what if leading to almost a £1m saving.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I fail to understand this section which talks about realignment and maintaining thus saving £890,000 in simple language there will be cuts.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If you are going to maintain the same levels, how are you going to do that with less money? Again, stretched to breaking, there are no more corners to cut.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How would this save money if nothings changing?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This needs to be very carefully handled, especially in light of the cost of living crisis - too many pupils may just fail to meet the threshold for help and thus be consigned to education qnd health poverty.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Don't understand how this saves money?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If you are aiming to maintain this provision, how and where is the proposed saving made?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unsure how this would result in a saving if the current levels are maintained, however, I would worry about the impact on vulnerable young people and families if free school meals and breakfast club provision was reduced	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure I understand this. If these areas will continue to be funded, how are savings being made? Are we going to cut the number of grants etc? If so, then we cannot possibly continue to fund them to the same level or am I misunderstanding this?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure what the Council is doing which is above SG funding levels?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	this is difficult to comment on, as it is very vague. If it means no increase from what is currently paid by the area, and that is where the savings come from, then that sounds fair. However, as so many are already struggling, to make any cuts on this provision would widen the gap and put many children and families further into poverty.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Would this mean that there would be a reduction in the number of children who receive free breakfast club when families are already struggling and having to choose between heating or eating?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unclear from this proposal who would be directly impacted by these changes. How many pupils would lose free meal/music lessons?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ditto	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Will West Lothian Council propose to reduce the cost of clothing grants to make the saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Neutral; Insufficient information on current and proposed provision to make any informed feedback	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does this mean? That you are going to reduce the numbers available? Many families are struggling to survive now and taking away this or amending it to less provision will put families and therefore children into further poverty.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree that these are important, though concerned that there is a saving to be made - does this mean a cut to some of the current provision down to the minimum required?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does "align" mean?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does this mean that WLC won't go above whatever funds are assigned from Scottish Government? Do they at present? This isn't clear from the statement.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	are less pupils expected? how is this saving achieved?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As above, you plan to throw the most at need pupils under the bus to save £890k?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comments other than a question on provision of "free" benefits such as school meals. Are all children entitled to free school meals - there are substantial numbers of parents who could (and would) pay for school meals - is this part of the review?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure if means testings is applied here but i would rather a child that needed the school meals had it over a child that did not. I have no school age children yet so cannot really respond.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not clear how this proposal creates savings. Does West Lothian currently provide more than the government guidelines?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals, breakfast club and instrumental music provision are all terrific initiatives that will really help kids.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How are you saving anything if you are not changing anything or are you not going to provide this support to more families?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Where are you wasting £890,000 at present?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does this alignment mean in laymans terms?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't have enough knowledge to comment on this as don't have children.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	West Lothian has areas of great deprivation, what affect will this have on pupils who will not receive a meal at home? The east/west split, the west of West Lothian has some of the greatest deprivation areas in Scotland.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am not sure what effect this would have in practice.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What will be the overall impact for those families who rely on these services?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	At last a question I understand but I have no idea what the Scottish Government Funding levels are so how can I comment if this is a good or bad decision??!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How can there be a saving by maintaining current levels? I assume the SG levels are below WLC's.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does this then signal a drop in funding for free school meals etc? It would be good if this was much clearer in this form. I'm not sure how people can comment without any detail.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What would the reduction be to make this saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Needs proposal re 'alignment' clarified	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	More clarity on what you mean by 'realigning' is required. I would agree that free school meals should be means tested. The Council should not be spending money feeding children whose parents can afford to do that.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How will this provide a saving???	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The explanation provided provides no real detail in how this alignment will save the council money. If the budget is aligned with the Scottish Government what does this mean? How will this impact our pupils? Does this mean children will eat less? If this is not clearly explained then this means no objections can be made. Probably exactly why the question was framed in this way.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't know what this means - it doesn't explain how you will save £890,000?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What do you mean by realign? Are you going to scrap free breakfast club and reduce cohort that will get free school meals?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does this realignment mean? How exactly will this impact children and young people? As a teacher working in schools I think that it is not only the availability of free school meals for children and young people that needs to continue to be made available but I also think the quality of these meals needs to be looked at and improved.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	In what way is West Lothian providing over and above the Scottish government requirements for free school meals at the moment?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure how aligning provision would result in savings this would need further explanation.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't know what this means. Does it mean that the free school meals/ breakfast club services would still run but with a reduced food offering, or that those who don't qualify for free school meals would have to make a contribution to use breakfast clubs? How do you save money if they are still running? It reads as WLC are funding all these at a level beyond SG funding. What would 'alignment' look like?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I wonder what you will be cutting from this to make a 890000 pound saving ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't and can't have children so i don't feel it's fair for me to comment on this question.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	no involvement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	no comment on this- as above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment to make on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	don't know enough about this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How can you realign free school meals? P1-7 is a government requirement and eligible secondary school students so what is being realigned?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't understand how there can be a proposed saving here when the need is increasing.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	So if continuing to deliver these where is the saving being made? What is Scottish Government funding levels? Does this mean reducing quality of meals provided (which is already low)? Children need access to a nutritious hot meal every day.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	More detail needed on what this actually means for free school meal provision - to align it with SG funding levels. Is this mean a reduction in pupils eligible? Does it impact on the nutrition and quality of food served to pupils? What impact does this have on holiday hunger programmes for children and young people?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does 'align with Scottish Govt funding levels' actually mean? I'm unable to comment as you've not made it clear what this means and now I'm worried that you will charge again for instrumental music.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'm not sure how this saves money. The wording doesn't make it clear.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	To what extent does the alignment mean reducing the provision in these areas? This is not made clear. If these is to be an estimated saving, this can surely only mean a reduction in provision in some way, detrimental to those families that already rely on it.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Are WLC satisfied that the school clothing grant levels are proportionate given that other councils provide less? Could savings be made in this area while still providing adequate provision?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is not clear how this would save money, if you are continuing to do what you are already doing!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Jdnd	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	See above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It's not clear what the impact of this is, if aligning with Scottish government what is the reduction /impact to West Lothian young people ? Your description does not make this clear so I cannot comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I have no opinion on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This has no impact on me so I will refrain from commenting	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Nothing to add to this change	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	So what will actually be cut?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not clear at all where the reduction in service is or the impact this will have	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I cannot respond to something I have no details of.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Hard to comment on this as again no specificity.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As above - cannot really comment through lack of knowledge.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is very vague and therefore difficult to comment on.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Neutral on this proposal.0	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Who will receive free school meals etc? Does align with funding mean reduce to the bare minimum?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free meals are incredibly useful for people who otherwise would not be able to afford it. If school meal provisions were lowered, how would that affect school meals? Would there be less availability or lower quality?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No comment, as matching SG guidance and statutory duties minimal requirement.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Where exactly would the cuts fall	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	M***** (redacted)	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't understand how there could be such a substantial saving when WLC proposes to continue to deliver these vital services.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	No views on this - particular sensitivity around this given nature of services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	For all children!!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I can't comment on this. I have no understanding of what the current situation is and whether it exceeds the needs of children. (I would doubt that the current service is exceeding the needs of children).	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure how this would represent a saving	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, it is difficult to comment on this without knowing details. What is the Scottish Government provision and what are the changes needed to align with it?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are essential services for children and presenting opportunities they would not otherwise have. Why is this an area to be cut?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does this mean services are reduced as funding levels are squeezed?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	More detail needed, what does Scottish funding levels actually mean in this context, simd?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Are more children going to miss out on these valuable services and opportunities? Why is breakfast club not means tested?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How does this save money?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Very difficult to comment as I have no knowledge of what this would mean in practice for our young people and who would have access to this provisions.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would be concerned that these facilities would be contributing to those in need with the current cost of living crisis increasing requests for support	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I didn't realise the school grant is awarded by the local council, I've always thought this was a government basic.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is very helpful to us all thank you moncomment on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Have no idea what I am supposed to understand from that. Leave the kids with their meals and uniforms, least you could do so at least they're clothed n fed	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How can savings be made if you propose to maintain current government provision. Does that mean your current spending is wasteful???	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How is this realignment going to be implemented?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How can you save £890000 by aligning the services to Scottish government funding? So are you saying that Scottish Government funding is less than WLC funding this you are implementing a further reduction in services which contradicts the above statement. How can you maintain current funding and provisions with £890000 less in the funding pot for this specific sector ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	was continued to provide free school meals and transport	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	breakfast club and music tuition is vital to our children	4. The council is already doing this.	Both provisions will continue under the proposals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Having provided services at this level now is not the time to reduce funding or ask parents to pay more given the cost of living crisis that is impacting many households in the area.	4. The council is already doing this.	Under this proposal funding will be replaced with specific funding received from the Scottish Government
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We must continue to provide support to all vulnerable groups from all groups within our communities	4. The council is already doing this.	Significant additional support is provided to vulnerable groups, including the Pupil Equity Fund, the Scottish Attainment Challenge, and the new Scottish Child Payment,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	In challenging times this is essential to ensure that education is accessible to all - it provides a pathway to allow individuals to progress beyond their class and to fulfil their potential.	4. The council is already doing this.	Education has the aim of closing the attainment gap, and maximising the attainment for every pupil, as well as supporting them into a positive destination.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Quality must be maintained while cutting budget availability.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	More staff in schools especially where classes are bigger and where needs are greater.	4. The council is already doing this.	Significant additional resources including Pupil Equity Funding, Scottish Attainment Challenge and council funding streams reflect the demographics of catchment areas. Class sizes are with national agreed limits.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keeping free school music tuition; Allowing families to use the free lunches element for either child - I have a p4 who's entitled who doesn't take but a p7 who isn't entitled who likes a school lunch. ; Re thinking the term inclusion - children who need alternative provision should be able to access it regardless. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government. Access to free lunches is a statutory requirement which the Council cannot change. The Council makes provision to meet the additional support needs of all pupils in Additional Support Needs Schools and Units or in Mainstream Schools with appropriate support.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is important that children from all communities have the opportunity to access affordable instrumental music provision - it would be unfair if it was put out of reach of people because of cost	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Essential services at these times.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think that it is vital that we continue to provide free meals, breakfasts and support parents with clothing.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	A shame West Lothian was spearheading the way for other Councils. Unfortunately, it's the poor and most vulnerable in society that need really need the extra provision	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is an important need for every child	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does this equate to a saving because West Lothian Council currently provides more free school meals/ breakfast clubs than the Scottish Government provides funding for? I think it is difficult to put a number on this "saving". Yes, there might be some money saved initially, but if pupils are then going to school without breakfast/without access to a free school meal then their learning will be impacted - and the knock-on effect of that could well cost more than any savings made here.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These areas deserve the full delivery of these vital services for the young children and young people	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Hopefully the music programme will not be cut.; Free School Meals is a great benefit to customers.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unsure of how this can possibly constitute a saving? Are children who do not get free school meals not to be entitled to breakfast club, an often vital resource for working parents?!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	SG supporting and keeping to these commitments vital especially with the cost of living crisis	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All parents should get free entitlement whether working or unemployed	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The middle range of people are now in debt and deficient parents have 3 jobs this is not acceptable. Families on benifets are getting more help than workers. Not fair and or equal at all. Feed all children regardless of income. You simply do not know what's going on at home!!!!!!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Middle range young people are now slipping through the net at St Kents sad to watch and its true. I believe all kids should be supplied with uniform not a gamble. if a family has money or not.... uniforms.now.being paid on credit cards..... how is that correct. Those.on benifets get a grant working people struggle use credit cards and get into debt not correct on any level. Some don't play sport as they have no pe kit	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are important initiatives and should be kept. If not already in place offer an opt out option to parent who do not want their children to have free breakfast or lunches.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There is a significant amount of food waste on a daily basis - there needs to be a real and detailed look at meal provision. ; Children should continue to have access to music- this can provide valuable holistic benefits.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does this mean a cut in staffing levels for Instrumental Music? Currently Music Instructors are spread thiny across many schools in a week. Further staffing reduction would make their jobs more difficult?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Totally unclear what this means from your short statement. However Instrumental music provision should not be cut. And neither should free school meal provisions	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All children's meals should be free in schools.; Prioritise this above anything else.; Good nutrition is key to all health, wellbeing and education.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is providing free meals in line with Scottish Government direction and funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is more important than ever in light of the current climate. All children need to be given the highest level of support to ensure their schooling is not affected by poverty. To learn properly each child needs the basics of a balanced meal and warm clothing.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As long as this doesn't deliver any cuts to the quality or variety on offer to students this would be good. Particularly during a cost of living crisis it is important to support the most vulnerable. The suggestion above gives the impression that cuts will be made in some areas	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Is not West Lothian Council obliged to follow Scottish Government here anyway?; So savings of £890,000 spurious.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are a MUST to assist with child poverty	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Everything must be done to ensure children do not go hungry and prepare them for the future	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free meals would be an advantage	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs are vital for working families.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Feeding poor children is essential.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	any free school meals should be means tested and provided unless directly funded by the scottish government	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals - Just provide as per requirement - Possibility of standardising menu across all wards to cost effective menu? Or ask Parents to provide pre picked items each week to reduce waste so only those items are made / supplied each day? (Do so electronically or ask office staff to log if unable to do so electronically)	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please make sure the children are fed. It saves lives.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keep music and PE	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing grants and free school meals are essential for all low income families.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is important, all children should be made to feel equal at school, I completely support school uniforms so no one is made to feel inferior.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think we need to factio in how best to continue to support the most vulnerable families especially in the current cost of living crisis.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast club is good if you require this	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are still very important as for some children it's their only got meal in the day.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	working with customers who need this in life especially Breakfast clubs, afterschool clubs, holiday clubs that make it easier for parents to work and know their children are safe, fed and looked after	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is important that all these areas are available to the young people in WLC who require them.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing costs are rising and so the clothing allowance needs to rise in line with inflation to maintain the actual level needed to fund the grant adequately.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ensure the clothing grants that are being given are being used effectively - being a school employee there are numerous pupils who do not turn up in school uniform although they are entitled to free school meals and a clothing grant	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There needs to be an impact assessment of how many free school meals, breakfast clubs and access to music teaching are being changed, and the degree to which services are being cut or charged	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are needed in all schools. In some cases it might be the only meal the kids get that day!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The above services should be available to all families whether on benefits or not. Some parents work therefor not entitled to such benefits and are sadly often in financial hardship, but get forgotten about.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast club highly relied upon - on many levels	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Also breakfast most important meal of day so should be available to all not just those 'entitled' to grants etc	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not much info given by you here but the free breakfast club is paramount for young people.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast club allows parents to work. Free school meals are essential for some families. And music as part of a rounded education has benefits in increasing grades in maths and literature.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	education for children is important and some families need the clothing grants due to the rise in levels of poverty in the community	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	third party service providers must undergo due diligence and pass on all sections, the council should only be prepared to risk accept low risk on services	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I have worked with west Lothian council in social care for over 20 years, which I enjoy, and hope to continue. As a working mum, I rely on the breakfast club at school in the mornings so I can get to work in time. I also pay for a childminder at the end of the day, so I can work a full day in the day centre. Working from home is not an option for me and I rely on outside help for both my girls who are of school age.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free School Meals	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfasts clubs are so important to working parents - it's hard enough when you don't receive any benefits at the moment removing that would make everything much harder	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	At primary school, make sure the children have a hot meal they will eat - it doesn't need to be fancy: the prime concern should be "if the children are only getting one meal a day (which many are) then what will they eat?".	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Make sure that the free school meals money is not wasted - so much food thrown away because the children don't eat it.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please do as much as you can to provide these extras which are vital in the long run to emotional and physical development.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All these services and more should continue to be provided	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	free school.meals and breakfast club are vital and allow working parents to get to work and have there kids looked after safely.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Look after those who need to be looked after.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please ensure that the most vulnerable school kids get adequate levels of support.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We should negotiate the provision materials and the service we offer to ensure we get the best deal for our pupils and families. We could look at using more local providers in order to do this.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Development of children is important for their future.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Proof of need not just given adhoc. In favour of music education and instrument loan if unable to afford by the parents.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The best thing any Council can do is feed their children. And yes it is the parents responsibility to feed their kids but if they can't the council should. No one learns on an empty stomach.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We have the responsibility to ensure all children are fed, clothed and have access to all subjects. The Scottish government should be helping the council to ensure no child is left out.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	People that can afford, will make sure that their child has what they need, others that can't afford fall into too bubbles. 1. They can't afford but want to. We must continue to support them. 2. Others can't afford but also couldn't care less. How do we deal with them	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I fail to see how we can make savings in an area that is going to be greatly affected by the current day issues e.g. fuel and actual poverty. Plus parents no longer parent and the council needs to provide these free services to the community.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't understand what is being asked here? How can the council make savings of £890,000 if maintaining current provision? Is the service provided already to be reduced/removed? How will that be done? There is no clarity on the proposal on which to comment!	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Services provided, take up and pupil/parent/staff thoughts could highlight areas for further savings e.g. food waste and how to reduce that.	4. The council is already doing this.	These issues are kept under regular review.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	government should mentaincurrent	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Government should maintain the fee provision in line the Scottish Government funding levels	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	the government should maintain the free provision in line with the Scottish government funding levels.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	maintain free provision in line with scottish government funding levels	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	government maintain provision in line with Scottish government funding levels	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think the council should maintain the Scottish Government levels of free provision	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Government should maintain free provision in line with the Scottish government funding levels	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Meals are non negotiable, students need food in order to learn. hungry students do not absorbed information the same as those that are fed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is unfortunate - the existing provision of school meals is excellent, and it appears that this will inevitably mean a reduction in that.; ; However, on balance it's possibly a needed change.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does this equate to reducing current funding levels for this service? If so, what would the impact of this be on those services?	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services also support working parents who have no other childcare option before the school day starts and enables them to get to work on time. School meals enable families to get their child a meal who may be finding it difficult to resources the food items for a packed lunch every day.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs and school meals help children who are potentially not getting breakfast before school or do not get a hot meal at home. This in turns supports their education and overall learning outcomes. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, free meals and clothing grants should be remain untouched. I imagine more families would benefit from this with the increase in living costs.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I understand people are struggling and free school meals are essential to all children but extras such as much should be a chargeable service	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This will not improve outcomes for low income families	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Staff are needed to physically work in environments for Breakfast Clubs etc.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Really don't understand how any savings are achieved here. These services are vital for lower income families	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Definitely a must for all young children whether parents can afford or not	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Force ****(redacted) to pay for it instead of sitting on her pile of Indy money	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals and breakfast club are not the right things to focus on for savings now we are in the middle of the cost of living crisis. More children will need these services more than ever.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Dont agree with any reduction in funding for breakfasts etc. Schools play an important role in anti poverty measures	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How can continuing something at the same level make a saving?	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I believe all of the aforementioned should be provided and if any cuts provided it should be based on a means tested approach, but not one that indicates those accessing the services are receiving additional support, this could be a cost effective way of reducing budget savings. Instrumental music provision can be invaluable to a child's development and educational journey, removing this is another gap within education and potential attainment.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs can be vital to some students whose guardians leave early or cannot afford breakfast. Ig those clubs can be kept it will continue to help those parents who need it ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs can act as childcare for when parents must leave for work or for other things and cannot bring children to school in time. This is an issue as if breakfast clubs do not happen how can young children get to school? ; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Schools should be able to fundraise to support these services, but less affluent areas should not be disadvantaged by this. ; ; Services should remain free, but parents can voluntarily contribute (make a donation)	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are extremely important for pupils that receive them. Many families struggling with the current economic crisis get free school meals and cannot afford to also pay for their children's meals every day, especially now with the rise of cost for living. This could lead to some children going without meals during the school day. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing grant - revised to support low-income families with both parents working.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Every child should get a free school meal at least once a day regardless of financial situation - for all. This reduces stigma for those who need it more than others.;	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free meals, clothing grants and access to music provision should remain free for families on low incomes, however I would be happy to pay for music provision for my two children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Free provision is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	this needs to be kept as my kids need the free meals at schools. others also need this and use the breakfast clubs.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Feeding children is and always WILL be the right thing to do, teaching music skills are good, but they are NOT vital, and right now with a MAJOR cost of living crisis created mostly by a corrupt Tory UK WM children and families are struggling, without a good meal a childs education is hampered !	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Happy that free school meals and breakfast clubs are means tested if that is why aligns to government policy means	4. The council is already doing this.	Universal free provision of school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The withdrawal of music services has had a truly detrimental effect on the number of kids participating. We are still suffering from this decision so I would guard against it.	4. The council is already doing this.	Free provision is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Provision of any bolt -on service that assists pupils' attendance and performance is to be welcomed	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This would be a real backward step. At this particular point in time family finances are stretched more than we have ever known so providing meals to support families is much needed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Proof that people need the help. Not just for everyone	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals can be the only decent meal in the day for many of our children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Poverty and the cost of living crisis is at its worst. It's great that West Lothian provides these vital services for our young people. I would hope we would invest more in this area and not make further cuts.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Investment in our children is vitally important as they will shape the future. No child should be hungry as they will not be able to concentrate in class.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services are vital for children and young people - from school meals to instruments as not all people can afford these services.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	With financial problems of late free meals etc are even more important	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'm all in favour of free school meals and clothing grants etc. Distributed and accessible for those in need in these increasingly challenging times.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please assess what the affect on primary kids in deprived areas this would have - these kids need more not less.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free School Meals and clothing grants should remain. School meals costs should not be cut so much if it means the quality of the food provided is poor. ; Many people would rather pay for lunches if they can afford to rather than children be fed poor quality junk.;	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals and breakfast clubs for the children that require it is essential. I see children every day that only eat when in school due to severe financial issues in the home.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All of these service are important part of school life and the cost of living crisis means easing it for families who are struggling is essential.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is a vital service that is very much needed, making sure the children are fed and warm is vital to their education and providing the stability for learning. Invest in the children now and you will have a healthy well education next generation	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keep all	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music is fundamental to children and tuition should be provided. Look when West Lothian Council asked parents to pay a couple of years ago the uptake dramatically reduced.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals should also be provided.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Does this mean only the most needy get the provision? I don't understand how savings can be made if funding remains at current levels.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The services need to ensure that the funding is relevant and/or needed (not all families want a free meal, they would rather know their child had eaten something).; Provision to supply food etc must meet the needs of all establishments and not just suit school hours.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These vital services are always needed to prevent neglect.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Necessary for those pupils whose only hot meals are provided at school	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As in align i would hope these would still be offered to children as for some this may be the only food they get. For other music is and art and would be such a shame not to have	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Agree that the council should maintain free provision of the above services. Not ever been sure why instrumental music is deemed a separate provision though when there isn't the same for sports or arts.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This would mean a reduction in current service provision, in order to reach the saving.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Kids must not suffer, for some the free meal may be the only hot meal the kid has that day	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is so important, as we are meant to be Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC).	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think these services should be maintained without going to government funding levels. Clearly there is a need in West Lothian for these to be above government spending levels. It's the government that should be questioned on their commitment to thee services.	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All children should receive free meals in full time education	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I should hope so. Children are our future and they need to be supported through their lifetime of learning and external factors should not affect education	4. The council is already doing this.	The current service will continue, using new, alternative sources of funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All school meals and breakfasts should be free and use in house caterers across West Lothian to get best value for best quality. Profits should not be made on a basic provision of food for children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please do not reduce the provision of meals for children. WLC should be used as a role model which other Scottish councils should copy rather than downgrading provision here. As a health professional I see the effect of malnutrition and we should ashamed the families are unable to feed their children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is important for all children to have the opportunity to learn valuable life skills e.g. instrumental music provision. My concern would be if some miss out because they cannot afford it and don't qualify for free provision.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Hard to see what the saving is here, but you shouldn't cut critical functions like free school meals.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Would like to see instrumental music provision maintained or expanded as children deserve to try things otherwise talent might be missed. Music should not be restricted to wealthier families	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Access to musical instruments for children of all backgrounds is hugely valuable to their development and to an equal opportunity to obtain the skills that come from learning to play an instrument.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	During a cost of living crisis, these services may be essential to some children in ensuring they have access to the nutrition they need.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Whilst the provision of free meals, uniform grants & musical tuition is greatly appreciated there needs to be some review of the actual meals delivered. Whilst a 3 course meal is advertised (which I pay for due to my child's age) rarely do they get the soup/fruit. My child has also missed music tuition due to the one & only teacher being off sick, I had to enquire what was happening as there was no communication from the council whatsoever	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	So basically stopping providing a better service than the useless Scottish government with a reduction in funding	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	From the description it sounds like nothing is changing....how can you save £890,000 if you continue to provide everything you are currently providing? 😞 Don't get this one!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Times are already tough for families this would most likely impact our lower paid working families who rely on these services to be able to work.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children cannot learn if they are hungry. The number of children for whom free breakfast and a free school meal provide their main meals cannot and must not be underestimated. Teachers already provide meals for children and most schools have active clothing banks. Children need to feel that they belong in school and providing school meals and clothing grants are essential for this.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These vital services need to be protected. They make a huge difference to those who access these services. Music provision should be accessible for all.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are services required by the most vulnerable children in our community and should not have funding cut.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Allocation of free school meals etc should not be the responsibility of WLC. This should be the responsibility of the Scottish Government	4. The council is already doing this.	WLC follows Scottish Government requirements set out in legislation and guidance.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Kids deserve the free meals and provision shouldn't be cut for this	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Given the current circumstances it is vital that money is not removed from access to free school meals and the clothing grants.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As always, the decisions to make cut backs affect the lowest income families the most. There has been a massive increase in families needing to turn to foodbanks to survive. Many young people will have their school meal being the most nutrition they will get that day. As cuts are a choice, removing food and clothing from children should not even be getting discussed.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals for ALL are a waste of money. Charging for the IMS ripped a hole through the musical community in West Lothian which we are still trying to recover from. Not all children are gifted academically but can find a home in music or sport and we shouldn't take these opportunities away from them.	4. The council is already doing this.	Universal provision is required by legislation. Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree to keep the free school meals and breakfast club and music provision as they are brilliant and the children profit from it. I would love the school clothing grant however changed. I am not sure how much children profit from these grants as there is no way monitoring that the funds paid out for these are actually spent on clothes and i fear that a large percent is not actually going to the children. Maybe the council could also look into offering afternoon programs at school. Homework club for example would be very welcomed and many working parents could profit from this.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source. After school activities, including homework clubs are offered by many schools, and parents can raise their priorities through the Parent Council..
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am amazed that there are any cuts to be made here on FSM, breakfast clubs. So-instrumental music again? As a Lothian Region pupil- I had free lessons and access to a school piano. This makes a massive difference to pupils who would not otherwise be able to access music lessons. This helps 'closing the gap'.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	They are all absolutely vital and I can't see how on earth these can be cut!! You can NOT start charging again for instrumental tuition. Some of our children have very little and music hugely helps them. Some of the less academic children absolutely thrive through music tuition and could really make something of themselves and you taking this away again would destroy them.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This would be a hugely detrimental decision for the young people that most need support. We are an authority with large numbers of vulnerable pupils and children living in poverty- we must continue to support them and any cuts to this support is sickening at this particular time when we know families are under more pressure.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What are the Scottish government funding levels? I assume below what you are currently ploughing into this system? If so, not acceptable. Children, of any age, should not be hungry at any point in the day. Perhaps limit the council employees bonuses to cover this cost?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am assuming you are cutting the free part for some, how would this work I wonder is it means tested and does that rule out those with hidden poverty? Many school breakfast clubs are overrun with children who really need it and some for whom it is free child care how though would this be managed. For many children the meals in school are their main meals of the day and this again how do you means test hidden poverty.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes these are all vital to support those children. We have already seen a cut in music provision and children are missing out!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast club, free school meals, support grants and music tuition are all vital and the council should not reduce its commitment to providing these. In order to confront increasingly levels of child poverty due to the cost of living crises, WLC's commitment to its children must not suffer. For some children, meals provided at school may genuinely be the only food a child is able to easily access each day. Services must not be cut in this respect.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I can't even discuss this. The people suggesting these cuts need to come and shadow a teacher for a few days. Pupils are coming to school literally starving. Teachers are providing snacks/fruit/water over and above the school meals just so pupils who don't get free school meal provision have a half chance of accessing and focusing on the learning. Schools are purchasing masses of school uniform, and clothing pupils daily. The current provision isn't covering the need, never mind reducing it. And instrumental music instruction is one, proper effective way pupils can deal with mental health struggles. Music is the one thing they frequently turn to that pulls them out of a hole. Picking yo the guitar or sitting at the piano gives them an outlet. If they never get the chance to learn in school, they never have that mechanism, and they end up on a waiting list somewhere for mental health services that are already too stretched to support them. After that, who knows. Every pupil should have the opportunity to learn an instrument at school. These cuts will have a wider impact on and already struggling society.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Taking away instrumental music provision means taking away opportunities from our most vulnerable.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services are invaluable in our schools.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services are vital for children as seeing the affects first hand of children who do not receive these things would suggest it actually should be available for all children. More families than ever need this sort of help otherwise it will cost the council more dealing with children who turn to crime instead to get a decent meal.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I cannot agree with this suggestion as once again it would have a huge impact on children and families who already live in poverty. Any reduction in free school meals and breakfast provision will have a major impact on children's learning and often these children have no other food other than what is provided in schools. This is impacting those who need support the most. The reduction in instrumental music provision will also impact those who have the least in society. Some kids who don't consider themselves 'academic' will enjoy and benefit from music provision and this will take away the little joy they have in school.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Services as they are should be maintained.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Cutting music provision is such a short-sighted move and again means children are robbed of life enriching opportunities. ; For those who need free school meals, breakfast club and clothing grants funding for these things should be maintained but not at the expense of other childrens scholastic experiences.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music tuition is a that all eligible children should have. Music is an expressive and meaningful outlet for many children and pulling this back may have an impact.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs, free school meals and music tuition are opportunities for children that may not have access to them. ; Free school meals and breakfast club are potentially the ONLY opportunities that children may have to receive warm food. Realigning these resources must ensure they are accessible to ALL children, no matter the SIMD status. ; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again another sweeping statement that does not highlight the impact that the savings would have.; ; If there is an estimated saving of £890,000 does this mean that free school meal, breakfast club and instrumental provision in West Lothian will change? Will fewer children qualify for these provisions? If this is in fact the case considering we are in a financial crisis this will result in hardship for so many children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast club helps thousands of parents stay in work. An invaluable service to working family's. Low income family's would not be able to clothe their children in school uniform without the help of clothing grant.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel these services are an absolute must for some of our community it will be a disaster if we loose these, our children are the future and need as much help as possible	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Every child should have access to food, clothing and the option of musical training in addition to other core subjects.; Continue with this service.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All of the above are so needed and possibly more now with the current crisis we are living in, look at the food bank use etc.; People wages are not in line with all the increases in the cost of living.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, much of this sounds like it will impact the lives of our young people, which is not acceptable. If WL Council currently go above the Government funding levels, some children will inevitably lose out if we now choose to go down this route. As I teacher, I see children come into school hungry, and while I appreciate that the proposal will still provide for most, it should be available to all. We should also be proud to promote the arts, including music and we should aim to encourage more of our young people to realise and develop these skills - not less. Budget cuts cannot impact young people, who have not caused any of the mess that we have created.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Once again our young people are going to suffer. Education is a valuable thing, a treasured thing which is vital! To stop or reduce the instrumental music service provision, which over the last few years has already seen reductions is not the way forward. Music is linked to so many benefits which helps to support other subjects. The expression and creativity offered with music gives our young people a way to express themselves, it is a source of comfort and mindfulness. ; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All pupils must be able to eat and in the current cost of living crisis these school meal and breakfast clubs are vital for many. The music tuition is also something that many parents and carers would currently not be able to afford and so pupils would be forced to miss out.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are too important. Every child should receive the best provision. I am not in support of cutting in this area.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a parent council, the lenses we're using across our responses are equity and inclusion, mental health and wellbeing, teaching and learning. We raise the fact that this generation of young people have faced extremely challenging years and applaud all efforts the schools and local authority have made to prioritise mental health and wellbeing in the months since lockdown.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We have not been able to locate a Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment in relation to; this proposal, and request that one is carried out in order that impacts are highlighted and; mitigated.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We are concerned that any changes to support staffing will disproportionately impact those who; are already disadvantaged, which would undermine the goals of inclusion and equity.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The high value of this saving implies to us that it is likely to lead to a reduction in overall staffing; levels with a resulting impact on curricular provision. The loss of any support staff is likely to; impact wellbeing significantly, and we ask that this there is no adverse change to pupil support.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs I deem necessary for all families. The provision of free school meals is supported.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is our most vulnerable who benefit most from these essential provisions. To cut these further will only increase the gap further.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not clear what that means but with significant numbers of people relying on foodbanks any reduction in food provisions seems like a poorly thought-out idea, hungry children will struggle to concentrate, and this will widen the attainment gap. Music is also already scarcely resourced so savings in this area would seem small and detrimental when put against the benefits to children of having the opportunity to learn music.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals and breakfast club should remain for those who require this provision.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I do not know how the council can propose to maintain current levels but still proposes to save £890,000. I am concerned about what this means for the provision of free school meals, breakfast club, instrumental music provision, and school clothing grants, which, as is stated above, are "vital services for our children and young people".	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I understand that this saving is due to the Scottish Government bearing the cost of these provisions, rather than by any change to the provision. I am opposed to any entitlement being removed from those who have been in receipt of free school meals, breakfast clubs, clothing grants, due to the disproportionate impact on the disadvantaged.; Instrumental music tuition, school bands and other provisions by the instrumental music service are already limited, and I would oppose any further cuts to their existence. This is due to the importance of arts education for mental health, and due to equity.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals must remain a priority for WLC especially in this cost of living crisis and the rising numbers of children living in poverty.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would like to see evidence of the changes in criteria and how any decisions would be determined.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,

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Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is an outrageously worrying statement. Breakfast clubs are essential provision for working parents and for families who struggle to give their child the start to the day that they need. The Instrumental Music Service is already on its knees and hanging on by a thread after the disastrous charging policy. To only fund what the SG are currently granting WLC is an enormous cut and would put this service in danger of not being able to deliver any sort of effective service. The demand for Instrumental Music is greater than ever and requires investment, not cuts. WLC is risking cultural devastation and a potential lack of any future opportunity for its young people to flourish, not to mention no music or ensembles to be available to support civic life and important events. Do Councillors really want the concert to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Livingston to have been the last of such events?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Many of these services are vital to the provision of equity.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Provide help to all who require it	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services, especially free meals are lifelines for some pupils and should be protected at all costs.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Additional moneys should be coming from UK following budget statement. Use of reserves should always be considered for these vital areas.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree all these supported deliveries should be kept, and others added to supplement the development of children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If this involves a reduction in any service that affects children and young people, do not bother. Our children deserve better.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Given the cost of living I would suggest the funding and payments for this is increased in line with inflation	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think councils should be not meeting but exceeding targets for schools. Children are important to our future and investment in them is investment in our society	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am unsure what aligning free school meals and breakfast club with the government would mean. If this would result in the cost lying with the school for breakfast club rather than the council, I would find this very concerning. School budgets are already very tight and the burden of providing breakfast for many children should not fall on schools. I believe that every child should be provided with breakfast to start their day. Families who qualify for free school meals should certainly still qualify for breakfast club. However, as many working families use breakfast club as a 'free' babysitting service before the school day starts, I would not see that there should be any question that if a family does not qualify for benefits, they should incur the cost of sending their child to breakfast club. Providing free school meals for all children is a fantastic service. However, so many families are able to afford this so perhaps this 'vote winning' policy from the government should be scrapped.; Instrumental tuition is a fantastic service within our schools. It allows children to gain so many skills and experiences that they may otherwise miss out on if it they had to pay for it. I grew up in this area and played in brass bands throughout my youth including the West Lothian County band, at the time conducted by Nigel Boddice. This was such an invaluable experience for me in my teens and I am certain I would not have had this experience if music tuition was not free. I have one child who currently has brass lessons, and I would love my younger children to experience the same, when they are old enough. I will not be able to afford to give them that opportunity if the council scraps free music tuition, as it did in the past.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again this is very vague as most people won't know exactly what WLC has in place at the moment in relation to the Scottish Governments free provision funding levels. Our children need more not less! Families are stretched to their limits with rising mortgage rates and increasing utilities, so many children will lose out if we reduce these services provided.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would be interested to know what this would actually look like in practice - it sounds like more pupils will go hungry, be in unsuitable clothing and miss out on music and expressive arts education. This is simply not good enough for the next generation.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, I realise that times are difficult but West Lothian cutting back to the minimum requirements would be a big loss and a detriment to young people, particularly as music is so important and aids wellbeing.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All these services are vital and should not be compromised.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All primary children should receive a free meal; And those who need it in secondary	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This cannot be removed as poverty within our school is evident and a meal is the one item I do not believe should be withdrawn for pupils living in poverty.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The food waste at lunch time in schools is unbelievable. I've witnessed uneaten fruit, yogurts, sandwiches, ice cream and school dinners go straight into the bin. ; Maybe this should be monitored and a solution found - genuinely would save ££££££ ; No Recycling is carried out in schools.	4. The council is already doing this.	Catering Services monitors supply and demand and sets levels of provision at the level necessary to ensure children and young people receive their entitlement. Monitoring will continue.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Partially disagree. It is to Council's great credit that we feed our most vulnerable young people and maintain the school clothing grant. This should continue and seek savings elsewhere.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Important for pupils to get these things	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Where possible free school meals and breakfast clubs are vital as in the current economic climate these could be not just the only warm meal eaten but potentially the only meal received that day.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel that it is vital that the breakfast clubs in schools in West Lothian MUST stay open. They are a vital lifeline for so many parents - one of the biggest customers are teachers who are working in West Lothian.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It's vital that all our children have their needs met in order that they access education- they must be fed and clothed!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music is a crucial part of education, research shows that children can increase their brain capacity by learning music, so benefitting all areas of the curriculum. They also develop many transferable skills. We must provide them with opportunities! ; Losing so much of the service years ago has adversely affected the opportunities that our young people have had.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If the plans are to cut allocation to free school meals and breakfast clubs, I completely disagree. This is a vital service needed for young people. Free instrumental provision takes away the unnecessary "elite" provision that music can provide for young people. Music can help with so many aspects of a young persons life and to only make that available for the people that can afford it is frankly disgusting.; ; It is not clear what you are proposing here.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	So effectively you are removing free school meals for Primary 4-7 at a time when families need it the most!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will be aligned with Scottish Government funding.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	With cost of living greater need for free school.meals and clothing Grant's.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will be aligned with Scottish Government funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This service needs to be maintained to provide these essential services to the children and young people that require them	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure I can connect the statement with the saving above? It would seem that the SG funding for this has reduced by £890k so you will simply work within the budget provided? So not a saving as such?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These are vital services particularly free school meals and breakfast club and I hope that any cuts will not affect these areas.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will be aligned with Scottish Government funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel that this may have an impact on child poverty if accepted, the attainment gap is getting further away and any reduction on this for those pupils could push some families into further poverty, especially if this is the only hot or main meal a child receives that day. I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a parent of 3 kids now adults I would support free breakfast or free lunches not both - kids need a decent meal at least once a day however do not absolve responsibility from the parents - we birthed them so we gotta feed them - all mammals put their offspring food requirements before there own ...no?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Important that less well off families are supported through clothins and free school meals.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will be aligned with Scottish Government funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If changes are made to the breakfast club this will affect people's ability to work. If people can't keep their jobs because they no longer have this flexibility then they will turn to the authority for support.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals and breakfast clubs must be maintained - these may be the only food some pupils get in a day/week.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of free school meals and breakfast clubs would continue in line with agreed national funding models.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I use breakfast club on a daily basis to allow me to get to my job this is the only 'perk' for working parents so this is something I would absolutely like and need to continue. As for clothing grants, I think that should be on an individual basis not just because people are on certain benefits as just because I work, and don't get benefits doesn't mean I can always afford new school uniforms.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Partly responded in previous question. These are vital services and good to be maintained - clothing and meals, breakfast club. Breakfast club delivery dependant on sufficient support staff in school of course.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I do appreciate the free meals/clothing grant for my child, thank you.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I believe it is vital our children have free school meals, also encouraged to learn an instrument.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will be aligned with Scottish Government funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services should all rise inline with inflation given the cost of everything is going up.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will be aligned with Scottish Government funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think this help is a very good thing .	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Think it's shocking p6/7 do not get free meals why should they be any different.; ; More work needs to be done for people who work, and don't get grants it's so unfair!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will be aligned with Scottish Government funding.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These service are vital; And life saving to many families and children can rely on these .	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again I do not agree with this, the cost of living crisis means more and more children living in poverty so cutting almost £1m from this when this should be seeing an increase is not acceptable!	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This needs to be done to benefit children	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Definitely required especially in these times.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I believe keeping all these things a vital in giving all children a fair start and means no children are left behind and are allowing the parents that need services to added stress at an already stressful time	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Schools should set up a fund to help pupils who are struggling the government ; and councils can only do and give so much. Other families at the school can donate every so often.	4. The council is already doing this.	Fundraising to help families cope with the cost of the school day takes place in many schools, but increased partnership with bodies such as the School Bank can be explored.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am not sure how almost a million pounds can be cut from this budget and services be maintained. Currently, many families are in dire straits and need support with these basics. A cut in instrumental music provision will further disadvantage talented youngsters whose parents are unable to pay for music provision themselves.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	By aligning a school meals with Scot govt funding levels. I hope this doesn't mean we will lose them. All children need free school meals so they are fed properly without shame or embarrassment.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think it's important to still offer lessons through the IMS. My children started lessons when we still had to pay for it. We would accept paying for lessons again, as long as provision was still provided for free for families that could not afford it.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	In the current climate to make reductions this way is not acceptable. Many working families do not qualify for benefits and rely on schools to help any way they can through various initiatives they have.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing grants need to be in line with cost of clothing, wanting to admit it or not, the current allowance falls short of immediate need. Cost of living has ensured parents heat or eat, to put a cut short allowance for school clothing on top is ineffective to reducing child poverty and allowing them to learn	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should definitely stay as I can see families struggling just now.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Recycle uniforms to be used for those who need them.; Can't cut free school meals as many kids live in poverty but I'd suggest taking ideas from pupil councils as lunches are a huge issue for them. It seems there are a lot of wastage.; Install vending machines as these will bring a profit and ease lunch congestion	4. The council is already doing this.	Recycling uniforms to help families cope with the cost of the school day takes place in many schools, but increased partnership with bodies such as the School Bank can be explored.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Every child should have a free school meal if they choose to take it and should not be means tested at all so there is no stigma.; The catering should not be outsourced so there is a better nutritional quality offered and local suppliers can be used. It could also be part of a grow your own education strategy with a community garden developed so that children are aware of where their food comes from. You don't get that with an external company profiting on bulk production from some central depot miles away using the cheapest junk food.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source. The costs to schools of growing their own food are likely to be prohibitive.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How many children need ; 1 a breakfast with so many parents working to make ends meet; 2 free school meals are in some cases the only meal some kids get; 3 why should kids miss out on musical instruments and teaching because their parents can't afford it	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	To achieve this saving it must mean cut - is there equity for all ? Or do those who cannot pay - don't get?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	With the financial constraints it is important this section of the budget must be adhered to, children should not be constrained and deprived through the actions of adults.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I disagree with the universal free school meal commitment by the SG and believe it should be available at point of need for families. Music tuition should continue to be free or subsidised as part of children's wellbeing and learning.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am opposed to any entitlement being removed from those who have been in receipt of free school meals, breakfast clubs, clothing grants, due to the disproportionate impact on the disadvantaged.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental music tuition, school bands and other provisions by the instrumental music service are already limited, and I would oppose any further cuts to their existence. This is due to the importance of arts education for mental health, and due to equity. If funding this service is in question, I would welcome a consultation on how it can evolve in the current climate without loss of the provision	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As per our answer to 1D, it is vital that the current (or greater) level of resources is maintained in this area.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Keep this its very good for kids to get a breakfast and access to musical instruments too	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs are essential as are after school clubs to allow parents to continue working and therefore supporting the local economy so such services are essential. Along with the music lessons are key to our children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs are essential for working parents as well as non working parents.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Funding for vital services like free school meals, breakfast clubs and instrumental music provision must not be cut.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is a amazing scheme. ; To all low income parents ; Should be cash should be vouchers for the items needed .	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School meals are important to enable that children are fed especially as we are in a cost of living crisis which will get worse.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instruments and the development of learning this is important for the children	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Please do not reduce funding for these services. West Lothian children benefit immeasurably from them and these costs are direct investments into our future. It would be imprudent to make reductions to spending in this area.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I understand that this saving is due to the Scottish Government bearing the cost of these provisions, rather than by any change to the provision. We are opposed to any entitlement being removed from those who have been in receipt of free school meals, breakfast clubs, clothing grants, due to the disproportionate impact on the disadvantaged.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	At a time where COLC is impacting on children and their access to good food and appropriate clothing. There should be no cuts to breakfast clubs, free school meals or any other services that help the most vulnerable families in the most dignified ways. West Lothian council has been a trailblazer in some of these areas and should co to use ti be at a time of need.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is vital for the children who are living on the breadline.	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Sounds as if stringent economies should be made but I am worried that this will diminish standards. If these cuts are now vital, why haven't they been investigated before?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides. Scottish Government Funding was not previously available.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Essential that the relevant trade unions are fully involved in the process.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This saving feels like it should be avoided until a very last resort. Providing funding of this type would align with most large corporates' social commitments (eg, Bank of Scotland, RBS, Scottish Widows, etc). Could the council explore those kind of financial partnerships or charitable style solutions as a way to maintain or improve funding in areas like these?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides. The idea of working more closely with partners will be addressed by the Council in its exploration of Community Wealth Building and Community Empowerment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Must keep school meals and clubs, only meals some kids get	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	was provide school meals and breakfast clubs this may be the only meal children get I wouldget on a daily basis; OK about uniforms	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	would be good that all school kids would get the same treatment and independently on the amount parents earn. There should be a standard treatment for all	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	keep the school grants going; and free school meals - it could be only meal a child gets	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School meals are often thrown away because they taste awful or are overcooked. This is a huge waste.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would like to see council's approach local farmers directly to supply their food, this would be better financially for both parties. This would be better for the carbon footprint for all.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't think you can combine it all together - feeding the kids and education. Remove all free school meals unless low income	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Whilst this may not be a popular view - school meals should not be free to all pupils. Music tuition should be. Breakfast clubs should be scrapped.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'd say means test the school meals and make sure those who don't use it are not being accounted for in the budgeting.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	You can't take away the basic necessities for children. The breakfast club is a fantastic idea but if savings are needed keep school lunches and Dutch the breakfast clubs	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Potentially limiting this vital service to only FSM children will greatly impact children and their well-being. There are already immense pressures on families in the current climate and this will only heighten the stress creating a poverty gap.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals should only be given to children who are eligible. There is no need to make it free for all especially because the food they are served is not nutritious at all. If parents can afford it, they should pay for their school lunch.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Parents who can afford to pay for meals could be given the opportunity to opt out of free dinners	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I can't understand how savings can be made on this when the Scottish government want more and more children to benefit from free school meals. Surely this is a cost not a saving.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free meals and music should be scrapped. This service is costly and the majority that use it can well afford to pay. Free meals and provision of this service is extremely costly and should be provided at point of need by the existing benefits provision	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should be undertaken on a means tested basis as this directly advantage those families who could contribute to the scheme.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The universal provision of free school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There are a lot of parents/carers who would be happy to contribute to the cost of services, allowing essential funds to be allocated elsewhere. The council will have to be mindful of hidden poverty and the rising cost of living in its strategies within this change.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The universal provision of free school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	My issue with all the grants is that the people that just scrape by will continue to pay for those better off on benefits.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The universal provision of free school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think this needs to be means tested	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The universal provision of free school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental lessons must be paid for unless the student is doing an SQA exam. I think this should be revised as it is unfair to some students who are unable to afford lessons ; ;	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Free provision is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	hell no let parents feed their Own kids, iPhones are luxury not a basic. today's parents are snowflakes and have to take responsibility for their children and choices.; feed your own family, it's not the councils job.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal free provision of school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think free school meals should be provided to families on benefits, it's the responsibility of parents to feed their children instead of flying off on holidays.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The universal provision of free school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It seems strange to provide free meals to children whose families are able to provide for them. A means tested approach would allow supporting those in need.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The universal provision of free school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music tuition should be means tested and if parents can afford it they should pay something.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Free provision is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I disagree with free meals for all anyway.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal free provision of school meals is dictated by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Abolish this entirely, or extend the School week to include Saturdays and Sundays so Pupils can pay back the amounts by manufacturing basic goods for sale. They could also support advertising for local Businesses by holding signs at the side of Roads.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should not be open to parents who can afford meals for there kids or any other resources for there kids; ; My neighbour get taxi to school for kids who run around in cars who can take there kids to school; Just a minutes along the road; ; Need to consider for the families who need help; So you maybe can save more	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel free school meals for all P1-4 is a total waste of money. As a catering assistant their is so much wast and most kids don't eat the food at all and through full meals in the bucket. Parents do t even ask the kids if they like the meals. it's just a case of it's free so you'll have it.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Make sure resources go to the families who are eligible - family link services would help with this and the synergies would be great.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think these things should be income based. Which I believe they are after the free provision. So agree	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If parents want kids to learn an instrument they should pay for private lessons. Many already do. As for free meals, why??? People should feed their own kids.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Some of us do not require funding for our children. Save this money and invest elsewhere.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	MEANS TEST for free meals breakfast club etc	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If needed free school meals should return to primary 1-3 children only. Our school can't even provide it to primary 7 as it's not big enough.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I would suggest a pay-if-you-can model for instrument tuition, meals, transport and breakfast club provision.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree with free meals and Grant's for those who require them. However, many families, who can afford to, would rather pay for their childs lunch and have the school structure remain in place as it is.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals should be for those who require them, parhaps raise the threshold of need. Not all primary pupils require free school meals	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't feel that everyone should necessarily have free school meals but instead reduce the cost dramatically	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Some services could be means tested.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision of free school meals to some age groups is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Suggest returning to model of free school meals only for those children who qualify, same with music tuition. Yes it's good if it can be extended but not on the present financial climate. Lots of children in the school I work in bring packed lunches anyway, even though the extension of free meals would allow them to get one.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs and provision of free school meals should be means tested to ensure support is going to those who need it most. As a parent I would be happy to pay gor breakfast club.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should be means tested. Offering breakfast clubs to all is not financially viable. Children do rely on breakfast clubs as they are not getting fed in their own homes due to the rising cost of living.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Don't understand why breakfast clubs and free school meals are not means tested? We are giving free meals to families on high incomes who can afford to pay whilst looking at reducing support in schools??	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Screening tests should be carried out more vigorously to determine the families who genuinely need this.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	My son has no music tuition in his school, which I'm very unhappy about. I work in a neighbouring council and we have visiting music specialists. Very unfair that he misses musical opportunities.; I would be happy to pay/contribute to school lunches and revert back to means tested.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, but funded from alternative resources. Universal provision of FSM is required by legislation for particular stages.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs and free school meals for all primary schools is not needed, this should be revised. much of the food is thrown out as many children do not eat it.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	More free entitlement for those that can afford to pay; ; There should be action taken against all outstanding monies due on payment; These are often parent who can pay but simply don't ; Schools sending out letters simply ignored; ; Breakfast clubs work with school staff support; Often used as child care as child has eaten before they come; Then it becomes all about supervision	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel that free school meals for all (breakfast and lunch) is an appalling waste of resources. Working in a school I see day in, day out, the vast majority of this 'free' food being scraped into the bin by children who won't eat it. Wealthy parents continue to order free school meals daily (including on Fridays when their children are eating at home) rather than provide a packed lunch because they now feel it is their 'entitlement'. Their children are not hungry and can, therefore, afford to waste most of this food if it doesn't take their fancy. They bring multiple snacks to keep them going throughout the day. ; ; It is, of course, essential that we continue to offer free school meals for those children who are most in need, however, I am strongly opposed to continuing to provide this service for ALL families in Scotland.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not all primary children require free meals, it should be means tested. Only the children that meet the requirements should be given help.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I believe free school meals and breakfast should be offered to ONLY those in need... not to all.; Instrumental music services should remain as a free integral part of school curriculum... open to all. West Lothian celebrates the talent of its young musicians in their annual concerts, this will be lost if instrumental music tuition services continue to be cut!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Can be means tested and reasonably priced. Grants should still be available.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Scrap free school meals/breakfast club for those other than low income families.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Make these means tested.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	There is no need for non means tested free meals or breakfast. It's a waste of public money. The uptake is poor. It should be means tested or, at least, by application. Making it universally free is devaluing the service.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We don't need free school meals for those that can pay. The meals that are provided are thrown away. A very wasteful policy. Those children who are entitled to free school meals of course should get it but as for everyone else if they can afford expensive holidays etc then they can provide a lunch for their children ! ; ; Breakfast Club is a cheap babysitting provision. Very few children that are dropped off actually eat breakfast ! Again charge a nominal amount a week for those that can afford to pay !	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music tuition must continue. Scale back on free school meals to save money	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The amount of food that goes to waste in schools is high. There are a huge proportion of children who do NOT need free meals but take them. We have to provide for those who need and make those who don't pay for their meals. Free meals for those who need it should be a constant through schooling but NOT for those who can afford it!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The council should consider whether free school meals & breakfast clubs are right for all. Perhaps a means test of some variety would ensure the right resources could be allocated to those with the most need. This would also help reduce the significant waste that is associated with these schemes. Provision of these services are vitally important but not to all in our communities. An innovative approach to provision could not only reduce cost & waste but also support those with the greatest need.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	In my opinion the Education budget should be used for education. Meals provided for every child should come out of a social budget. Parents should be taking more responsibility for providing their child with a meal during the day. I agree with Breakfast Clubs to give children a good start in the morning. Perhaps a subsidised school lunch could be provided saving the council the full cost of a lunch for every child.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals for all reduces stigma for those from disadvantaged backgrounds. I'd happily pay towards a lunch for my child but would prefer it's not obvious who gets what.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think you could easily cut the pack-lunches on Fridays. Most children do not utilise these anyway. Free school meals to the most needy is important- but not necessary for all children P1-P5. Free meals to this group could be an "opt in" and then the numbers could be cut significantly and most families could pay for this.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I am in favour of targeting those most in need, rather than free provision for all, however do wonder whether an alternative is to allow subsidised buy-in to e.g. breakfast club or music provision - rather than free vs fully paid.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I assume that currently WLC provides higher funding levels than the Scottish government provides, so by aligning and creating a saving, these services will be cut down to some extent? I hope that any reduced provision will be means tested so that children who are less likely to receive these privately, will have fair access and opportunities.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not everyone needs a free school meal or chooses to have one so availability so be for those who need it most and cut costs accordingly	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel breakfast clubs could be much stricter. These are being accessed by affluent families as a babysitting service.; FSM are vital to those families not working- if there was a way to go back to means tested but make it invisible to all I'm school.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I agree as long as it's means tested	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs and free schools meals are great but not all kids take it so money is being spend for meals unused. Also making a lot of it food that doesn't get eaten because kids are kids and don't like most of the stuff that comes along with the meals and it then ends up in a bin. Waste of money waste of food. Better management of how much each school requires rather than giving blanket free school meals for every child then they don't eat half of it is a bit silly. More money is needed to reduce the cost of school uniforms. Such as using a local company to do embroidery that don't charge parents and arm and a leg would help massively	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a member of staff working in a school in a deprived area, I see first hand the amount of free school meals that go wasted. This needs to be reviewed to ensure only those who would benefit from it receive it - so much food waste as well as a waste of money.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Parents who can afford school meals could pay for them, to free up money for those who can't.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I disagree that school meals and breakfast clubs should be free for all, these should be means tested. Particularly breakfast clubs that are used by the majority of families as free childcare.; Means tested should not just means those that are on benefit, there are working families struggling but do not qualify for any benefit, a family income should be set and those absolutely those above should not receive free meals.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Effectively a cut in services and will have the most impact on those who can least afford it. Not everyone can pay for instrumental music provision and will have a significant impact for the future.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	free meals should only be for the families that need them, low earners . NOT a free for all. 3 bins full of food a week to the bin because families just take anything thats free.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are very much needed but should only be available to families who need it.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If 89k already provides these services to people, how can a cut in funding still benefit them?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	In this current climate I feel that food for children is far more important than uniform, for some of our children its the only hot meal they get. Schools provide pre loved uniform parents can buy for pennies	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not all children require free school meals it should be targeted to those in need.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Many families could afford to pay for breakfast club and lunches but the current policy prevents this. This is definitely worth looking at.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The provision of free school meals is a must but the menus need to be looked into. There are lots of options that are not necessarily child friendly, the guidelines to give each child everything is also causing a lot of food waste which in turn is a waste of money.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation. Catering services monitor provision and set levels at those necessary to ensure children and young people receive their entitlement. Monitoring will continue.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Provision of free school meals needs to be means tested. Money is being wasted giving EVERY child a FSM when they don't need it. This could be a HUGE saving and the money spent elsewhere. I'm sure that most parents who can afford it would be willing to pay for it.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This does feel rather creatively worded. I take it realignment means reduce, otherwise I can't see where the saving comes from. This shouldn't be a rush to the bottom if it disadvantages children who clearly thrive when they are well nourished. Difficult to see how children won't lose out if you're taking c900k out of the budget.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children's families who can afford to pay for breakfast clubs, free school meals and music provision could be asked to pay a nominative fee for utilising these provisions. This would reduce the cost to the council of these, some would argue, essential provisions and ensure that children and families are not being placed under strain should they not be able to afford to pay.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I mean as you should. If prisoners can be fed for free at point of service then why is it even a question that children be fed when at school !	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel free school meals are very important to support children's learning development as if they are hungry, children will struggle to stay on task and this can affect their behaviour and in turn their learning. However I feel free meals in ELC's are a waste of money and would be more beneficial for children to take a hot meal or sandwich home instead of eating in ELC and the waste that is happening.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision in ELC is a requirement of legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School kitchen provision reckon is best kept in house with council staff. Don't think free school meals for all children is necessary, Children and families who need free meals will get them still, they are assessed for this benefit. Lots of food waste therefore money waste when across the board.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Universal provision of free school meals at certain stages is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think school meals should only be given to children who actually need it. This would save money and food wastage.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	More stringency in the allocation of free to school meals to family's (who clearly can afford designer clothes for there children) and others whom both parents work who are on the bread line and have to pay	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are best way as it Crete sense of equality and help kids bond more.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, but funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Give parents the option to pay for school meals rather than being free to nearly all primary kids.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I have hadnt to use the clothing grant but believe many families will find this service vital and so it shouldnt be cut.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals including breakfast should only be for those on benefits with safety netting special discretion given to teachers/staff locally who identify a need. Middle class kids do not need this. ; Agree with clothing grants.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should be for the children who are from lower income families and ones who are really struggling. However There are some parents who have higher income jobs and could afford more for their children like school meals, clothing grants ect.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As above. Stop offering the service free to everyone. Only support those in need	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs, school meals are vital to many pupils these may be the only meals that get	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals would be better target towards those who need them the means testing and not a blanket role out to all. Would be happy as a family to contribute the costs of meals and activities.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	So much food seems to be wasted in school. Maybe not all free meals are needed.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The children in schools need to have access to breakfast clubs, free school meals and support to help more and more families who are struggling.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals is a great idea across the board. In doing this tho, kitchen upgrades within schools would have to happen. For example, providing fridges/freezers for the extra food that would need to be brought in as well as other equipment such as plates, bowls, cooking utensils, serving trays etc. Extra staff may be required to help	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Provide discount/vouchers for primary children who walk to school as an incentive to walk, e.g. money off school uniform etc.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Efficiencies should be concentrated on food waste and recycling of school clothing. Resourcing clothing in bulk to ditribute rather than issue funding may create savings.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	To allow any working parents that don't work in imitate local area commute to work (even breakfast clubs starting at 8am is too late for most working parents)	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Stop the Friday sandwich deliveries from Glasgow and give the kitchens a label maker or similar.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	During covid, people were able to access free food from a variety of different sources - these sources should be identified and stream	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Musical provision should be increased	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing grants should be issued as vouchers to be redeemed at schools, lots of money not spent where its meant to.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Administrative costs for the Council would be significant.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Saving on the level of taxis used to transport pupils to schools, surely a transport grant would save a substantial amount of money.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Savings are proposed to school transport costs by moving to the statutory distances.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why does the council not just buy the items that it needs itself and then provide the items to the individual parents rather than providing grants or use a voucher service to give to parents . This would save the money being spent on inappropriate items by some parents	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your suggestion. Administrative costs in determining need, and meeting demand, would be likely to be large.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is really good especially now as this would be really helpful to a lot of families.; People would really struggle without this if it was taken away.; Know a lot of people who get this and some of them used it for other things not what they were suppose to use it for. ; A better option would be to give this in a voucher and not cash so it can be used for what its not intended for.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your suggestion. Administrative costs would be likely to be large.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	These services should be expanded rather than curtailed.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I believe cutting clothing grants and changing how benefits are paid could help here.. perhaps parents who receive benefits in July and August perhaps get a little extra in the form of shop tokens for school clothes only	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Administrative costs for any voucher scheme are likely to be high.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Should not provide any grant in the name of clothing grants . Need to provide some sort of voucher system only low income people	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Administrative costs for any voucher scheme are likely to be high.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free provision in schools should exceed Scottish Government commitments, if financially possible.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think every primary school child should receive a free lunch as more families go into poverty I also think that the eligibility of clothing grant needs to be changed as a family with 2 working parents can still struggle to feed and clothe their children due to higher bills everywhere else	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The Council has considered provision of clothing grant in its budget decision making.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	To ensure school clothing is purchases via grant vouchers should be provided instead of money being handed over to ensure school uniform is bought.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Administrative costs of a voucher scheme would be likely to be high.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Given we are in cost of living crisis this could mean people who need this don't gain access to it- the threshold is sometimes too low and this should be rolled out to include more children and young people not less. Free schools meals should be made available to P6/7 pupils too	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The Council will continue to apply current thresholds.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Would like to see free school meals rolled out to all primary and secondary pupils. For some children this is the only hot meal they get.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Provision will be aligned with Scottish Government funding.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Foster children should automatically be entitled to grants regardless of foster carer income.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Clothing grants are intended for those on low income.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It should not be the councils responsibility to feed children 2 out of their 3 meals, 5 days a week. One free meal should be provided, with donations or a fee for breakfast club payable by parents/carers/guardians; School clothing grants should only be paid in clothing vouchers to stop misuse	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The administrative costs of a voucher scheme are likely to be significant. Provision of FSM and free breakfasts is in line with national legislative requirements and criteria.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The council would also maintain school clothing grants, which are above the amounts paid by many councils, at existing levels. Lower it further.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council has agreed to prioritise funding for the existing level of school clothing grant.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If SG funding is the benchmark for provision of the free school meals etc. Why not bring the clothing grant to the level of funding provided by the SG ringfenced aspect of this funding.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council has agreed to prioritise funding for the existing level of school clothing grant.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why can't we just get rid of a school clothings? They do not have any impact on learning.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	School uniform plays an important role in establishing school identity, increasing equality, and reducing cost for parents.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why are people entitled to these free provisions not asked even to pay a nominal fee. When something is free it is often taken for granted and abused.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The government and councils must increase the School Clothing Grant as the prices are higher than before, I consider that every child deserves this Grant.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council has agreed to prioritise funding for the existing level of school clothing grant.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	feel parents should be able to provide their own kids clothing as not expensive from supermarkets.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reduce grant levels	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why are WLC paying more in school clothing grants than many councils? This should be cut to match Scottish Government funding.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council agreed current levels of provision when setting its budget.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Opportunity to work collaboratively with other council's and ensure consistent grant funding - no point in WLC grants being much higher.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council set current levels in its budget process.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Reduce grants	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council set current levels in its budget process.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Is supplying school uniforms really more important than free meals. Could we rethink out uniform and if they need to be school branded. Could we make uniform rules throughout schools less strict so that they get more affordable and needed to be provided by the council. Can we feed kids and not buy their uniform? ; ; ;	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Providing clothing assistance was prioritised during the Council budget process.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	De crease the school grant system and stop the breakfast club & withdraw the instrument entail music system	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council agreed to fund these services during the budget process.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Absolutely and drop the school clothing grant to the SG funding level. The people who really need this provision will be able to tap into it through the Advice Shop if required.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Current levels were set during the budget process.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Is it time to say school uniform is no longer a requirement & therefore the need to provide clothing grants could be reallocated? Few European countries require students to wear a uniform & they seem to learn. I appreciate the old adage of it makes everyone is equal but was that ever really true? Times change so maybe an opportunity to review, guidelines could be laid down. Tesco are no longer providing uniforms for their temp staff so there's the barometer of change.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Families may still require support in providing clothing, even if not uniform. Current levels were set during the budget process.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Paying a small fee for using breakfast club would be understandable. Though the cost of living crisis would make this difficult for many at the minute.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How about no uniform?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	School uniform has benefits in terms of equity, creating a sense of identity, and safety of children and young people, but consideration will continue to be given to how uniform cost can be minimised.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School Uniform is nice but not essential to learning and education. There are numbers of budget supermarkets that offer cheap alternatives which could be used instead. Scrape the clothing grant altogether or reduce it - it is far too much especially when budget supermarkets offer the uniform for a fraction of the cost.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council has considered provision of clothing grant in its budget decision making.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing grants should be reduced to Scottish Government recommended levels and not higher than other Councils. Ever increasing amounts of money are targeted at those labeled 'vulnerable' - PEF, Scottish Child Payment. West Lothian Council does not need to add to this.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council has considered provision of clothing grant in its budget decision making.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing Grant is far too generous. Doesn't exist for a school uniform so cut it back. Also should cut off free music provision. Not fair that working families who get no help can't afford this so their child misses out but kids of families who do not through their own choice work get free music lessons	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council has considered provision of clothing grant in its budget decision making.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School clothing grants are not needed people get child benefits and other benefits to support their children and most children don't get use of this	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council has agreed the provision of school clothing grant during budget deliberations.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Also if you scrap school uniform altogether (obviously no shirt skirts or certain things that may not be appropriate) then you won't need to spend on school uniforms at all, when I was growing up in high school there was no uniforms. Uniforms are nice to look at but it doesn't affect your learning. Please consider this across all your schools as it will save a massive amount on school uniform grants.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental music provision has a much higher number of participants from higher socio economic backgrounds. Lots of these parents could contribute.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Perhaps scrap the school uniform policy. This would allow each family lots of savings. They cost roughly £100 each year. I also don't agree with aligning this with government funding. This would lead to inconsistencies in education as the fact whether a child receives music tuition or a free meal would vary depending on that government money. This is hard to explain to a child and opens the gap between rich and poor even further.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	the free school meals and breakfast is essential for some children and feel this is a necessity. Instrumental music provision could be reviewed with parents/carers paying towards the lessons if they are financially able to do so. this should be a token amount and not the full cost	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Yes, those parents who can afford to pay for meals/tuition should do so, to ensure that those children whose parents cannot are afforded the same opportunities through grant funding	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Access to previously owned uniform/shoes. Often school uniform/staff uniform is in excellent condition and can be reallocated.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Many schools do support parents/carers to pass on uniform items, but this could be considered more strategically.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free provision should be means tested and protected for the most vulnerable children.; Recycling of school uniform should be prioritised to assist with costs to provide uniform.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Many schools do support parents/carers to pass on uniform items, but this could be considered more strategically.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All children should be given an instrument. See tutti music bring them in with music library. This is a must. Do a St Kent music library. Maybe have a Friday afternoon youth club in the school cook low cost bulk dinners this winter.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Music tuition will continue, including opportunities to access instruments, The expansion of out of school care may provide opportunities such as learning cooking skills.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All Schools should allow generic non-branded clothing like shirts, trousers, skirts and PE kits which can be bought at affordable prices. Badges to sew/iron on should be provided free or at a minimal cost to the parent.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This suggestion is in line with the Council's recent response to the Government's consultation on uniform.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again best practice with other councils, in this you could lead the way. Perhaps encourage Scottish Government not to waste money and to make this a priority seeing as a quarter of children are living in poverty and this seems set to rise as Scottish Government devolved responsibility is not being met..	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The council should force all schools to sell patches of the school emblem instead of selling the hoodie or polo shirt as some schools charge far too much for these items making it difficult for some families.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing grants need reassess and should be household means tested!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast Club - could all breakfast clubs be provided for at a single location (or per number of schools to each area? ie 1 provision for Dedridge area - but caters for 3 different schools) Would a shuttle bus be cheaper than paying staff at different venues? Look at neutral venues located about the ward, such as community halls if bus is a cost-effective measure?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental Music - could all instrumental music clubs be provided for at a single location (or per number of schools to each area? ie 1 provision for Dedridge area - but caters for 3 different schools) Would a shuttle bus be cheaper than paying staff at different venues? Look at neutral venues located about the ward, such as community halls?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing Grants - Set up clothes banks for old uniforms for those that have outgrown them but are in good condition (also look into local social media pages, set up by locals or the school itself for passing on good condition uniform items). Would also suggest scrapping any emblomed uniforms and revert to typical shop bought polo shirts, shirts, jumpers, trousers, skirts etc... (Pick a colour such as grey, black or navy for each school). Also scrap blazers - huge financial cost to families (who feel pressured to buy them so their kids "fit in" and they are horrid things, particularly in the rain...; Just supply a school tie for that particular school (at reasonable cost). Then clothing grants may be reduced somewhat... Same consideration for PE clothing.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Also, no mortice boards and gowns for nursery, primary or secondary school "graduations" (across board so one child/family doesn't feel left out if it was at one school and not another). Or share, sell or donate supplies across WLC to make fair. (Consideration will have to be given to each school's "graduation" day in this case)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Could schools remove need for school uniform to help more vulnerable families?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This suggestion is in line with the Council's recent response to the Government's consultation on uniform.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The quality and portion size in school meals has deteriorated. Schools cannot be expected to serve a P7 the same portion size as a P1. Too much cost cutting on the quality of school meals, quorn options are not significant healthier.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Align the breakfast fee - audit current catering processes. How accurate are our records? How often are these contracts tendered? Is a profit margin of 50% for school canteens appropriate or can that be negotiated? Breakfast clubs are often run for a minimal fee with a big impact. Alignment must be quantified before decisions can be made on this. Consider your uptake in local food banks - are there areas of concern and are we confident that this is the correct move given the current financial climate? Further consideration of this would be welcomed. Nutrition is non negotiable however the contracts and profit margins are surely up for discussion.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing grant is fantastic - however can an agreement be made with a supplier to make savings and streamline via schools or vouchers to provide accountability for this spending? Id prefer money was spent on breakfast clubs than topping up the clothing Grant.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unfortunately, the excellent idea behind breakfast clubs has become a pre school creche for middle class families to drop their children off early so that they (the parents) can get to work. Would it not be better to offer the creche facility for those who need it - at a price - and then spend the extra money giving the breakfasts to the children who actually need it	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Offer breakfast club for a small feebut mindful to balance with costs of living issues	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Many of these grants are not used for the children concerned and rather than cash an alternative way of clothing allowance could be explored.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Introduce swap shops and thrift shops for those struggling with costs of uniform - not all families 'entitled' to clothing grants and free school meals struggle finically too - these should be available for all	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Think this is a great initiative but is it being utilised. The menu is not of a high standard. Early years are being encouraged to provide lunch in a very short period of time due to not having working kitchens and food is being delivered from other towns. Parents are giving children lunch before the afternoon session. There is not hot provision during holiday time and a basic menu of sandwiches provided. Staff are asked to reduce portion sizes and encourage children to eat in a home from home environment. They then move to school where there is not enough staff to sit with the children or make sure children are eating their lunch. Many of the trays of food go in to the bucket or pack lunches uneaten due to wanting to go outside to lay.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Being a parent I hand in to school shirts and clothing each year as my son grows for other children to get use from the items. I think that providing items you could get a better cost could control the amount spent and also to encourage parents to hand in clothes their child grows out of to hand in for others.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	With regard to breakfast club, this is to enable parents to get their kids to school so that they can go out and work. I feel as a working parent this provision is crucial but there is space for change, such as opening it up before 30 minutes before school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental costs could be introduced with grants available for those who need one.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals, free breakfast club and clothing grants should only be provided for those that require them. Free meals for all is not necessary as there are many parents who can afford to pay for this service. While I see the value in instrumental music tuition I do not feel it is equitable as only those with an interest in learning an instrument benefit. What about children who want to pursue dance, sports or other instruments that are not offered? Is there a more affordable model to provide access to music for all children? Could local community groups be more involved at school level?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Instrumental (and vocal) music provision is extremely important and should be diminished in favour of a very bare 3 Rs strategy. There are cultural organisations in the Community e.g. Orchestras, Theatre groups, Folk Festivals etc that would welcome a part to play in this.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure this comment is relevant to discussion however Breakfast club and clothing grants great but parents need to apply for them. Due to government free school meals some parents think they don't need to apply therefore lost government revenue for school so need to find a way to sort this.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I know first hand how much food waste there is on a daily basis both in the primary school and ELC setting for school meals. This is something I feel quite strongly we need to reduce.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music is important and so is playing a musical instrument. There are many in our community who through volunteering and PVG checks could supplement this kind of education in schools. We don't invite the community to support - anywhere near as much as we could!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Are there any central areas where outgrown school uniforms can be accessed. Given children grow so quickly and 1 uniform worn during first years will still have sufficient wear for another is this not a better initiative and keeps costs down.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The school or PTA should provide a second hand uniform shop, if it doesn't already.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Linlithgow Primary has a free school clothes swap shop which other schools should implement if they haven't already. There's also the West Lothian School Bank. Therefore there shouldn't be a need for school clothing grants. Considering there are no primary music teachers, at least in Linlithgow, Instrumental lessons should absolutely be free. Mental health issues are increasing in our young people because they have not been given the access to creative subjects to explore who they are or what they like or just to be given a breather during the school day from STEM subjects being rammed down their throats! Not everyone who goes to school is academic and music transcends all subjects and can be enjoyed/made by all pupils including those with additional requirements. Especially during a cost of living crisis considering changing access to school meals for anyone is not advisable. Avoid cuts in schools - end of!!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Greater partnership with the West Lothian School Bank is a positive suggestion.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Remove school dress codes for colours and tie colours. Then clothing could be used across the schools and cause people to need grants less	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Minimising differences between schools and introducing a minimum acceptable uniform which could be worn at any school are positive suggestions.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The quality of the meals are quite poor as it is and not everyone needs a free meal. I would not allow my own children to eat a school meal and I certainly wouldn't eat them myself.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Can the council also link with charities providing uniforms and support PTAs with swap shops on-site	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Increased partnership working with the School Bank and PTAs/PCS will be considered.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Music is such an important part of education and is undervalued. I suggest joining up with some charities/ voluntary groups to bring music groups into schools and asking for public donations to give ongoing support to all these activities. The money would need to be pooled centrally and shared equally.; ; There is a lot of goodwill out there. I'm sure schools could tap into it.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Greater partnership with community music groups could provide additional opportunities for pupils.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	; Our children should always be a priority and there shouldn't be any reduction in services that mean children can receive hot food, opportunities for development. Do away with strict school uniforms such as blazers, different colours like brown and blue that cost parents more. A standard black trousers/leggings and school jumper would be much more affordable.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Consideration of a standard minimum acceptable uniform was proposed in the response to a recent national consultation on school uniform.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I was involved in setting up of breakfast clubs across the Central belt when I was community development manager in Scotmid Coop. If any lay person involvement is required I would be happy to help.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Community partnership may provide useful additionality to help families address the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Will this result in a reduction of music tuition? Will there be a partnership between charities such as the school bank in being able to help disadvantaged families with funding being offered by the council to support a much needed service?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Partnership with the School Bank could provide useful additionality to families to help address the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School clothing grants should be once per year or we could instead of giving this money to parents we should give the money to the school clothing bank and let them make up the uniforms for the children that need them or are entitled to them.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Increased partnership with the school bank could be explored with the aim of maximising benefit to families.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	stop the music (redacted) anyway does (redacted) good for society. and make the meals a part of 5 a day only (no meat or fried (redacted)). make the uniform a standard across all the country and stop the logos and ties (extra unnecessary material has no part in their future so stop the stupid traditions NOW).	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why are West Calder s1 pupils getting camp opportunities.... travel to football match opportunities and St Kents has nothing to offer like thisvery disappointing to an area of deprivation. West Calder is not an area of deprivation it could be argued.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think one possible way the council could save money would be to review the way these grants are allocated. If families are on certain benefits or are genuinely struggling the school should be given the power to make these decisions. At this present moment in time I am sure that there would be quite a few families who could afford to pay a small amount to receive these services. As a parent myself, I had to pay for my 3 children's bus fares to school (no free bus travel then). Pay for their lunches everyday plus pay towards any items made at school. My family was not well off but we were not given the hand outs that parents enjoy today.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Too many people get benefits when don't need them as they know how to get round the system. I know members of my family are on benefits and they just chose to not work as lazy, say they are at one address but they are not so get extra money.... Stop this and use the money for those genuinely can't afford to eat or cloth themselves. Those on free school meals shouldn't be boasting about their kids with new iphones/tvs/parents using money for tattoos or piercings or holiday	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This should be means tested	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If the breakfast club got taken away, I would need to pay my childminder and additional fee to look after my girls in the morning. Things are difficult enough at the moment and I'm also working an extra weekend job to cover the bills. I would be happy to pay a contribution towards the breakfast club, If that would be an option, rather than losing it all together.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As some schools currently do not have space for their pupils to have a school meal in a dining hall large enough for capacity (shared space with gym) this will mean that some schools will never be able to provide an adequate lunchtime.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As i have said, I have seen "free school meals" thrown in the bucket, the huge amount of waste was disgusting.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, children should be our focus if we want to create a better future. People say you should respect the elderly, I believe we should respect the youth and the future we are creating. Don't punish them for our failures.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think providing these services to more people would be better actually. It would be a massive help to cost of living and reduce pressure on social and health services of all children were given free school meals	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Do we really need to be keeping kitchens open during school holidays ...	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The school meals currently provided are absolutely disgusting so this is a bit worrying, these are a vital part of many children's diet and should have more investment.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Ditto	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is a sorry state of affairs with the UK just now. Food banks, free meals, what is going on! Scottish Government should prioritise on the day job and shut up about Indi Ref 2	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I know cuts have to be passed down but this is unbelievable. The UK and Scottish Govt should work together and forget indie2!!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What is the point if you cannot support the new generation of kids working hard to better their futures	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free instrumental tuition in schools allows those, who may not otherwise, have an opportunity to learn to play an instrument. This fosters many skills for life, learning and work.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	no undrestand this msg	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Why pay council tax.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This comment is not relevant.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals should only be provided for families who are entitled to benefits. The families who can afford it should pay.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Universal Free School Meals is the responsibility of the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children whose families can afford to pay for school meals should continue to do so. There is no need for everyone to have free school meals. Investing in music provision is important provided that families are not expected to pay high fees.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Universal Free School Meals is the responsibility of the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The plan to give all children free meals is crazy in areas where parents can well afford. The system needs looked at again- payments to families are essential but there needs to be a safeguard that it cannot be spent on other things; IE uniform grant is for kids uniform etc. This money is a lifeline for many families but some of the money is squandered	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Universal Free School Meals is the responsibility of the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Providing free school meals to all primary children should be a priority.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Scottish Government has made a national commitment to the further roll out of FSM to P6 and P7 children. The council will implement this following national agreement.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Breakfast clubs should be charged for again; people are not using them as a breakfast provision for their children but as free childcare.....I know, I run one. Free lunches for all P1-5 are a complete waste of money; the kids don't like them and most of the food goes in the bucket.....I know, I work in the lunch hall.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	FSM for P1-5 pupils is a national requirement across Scotland.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Also I know this is a Scottish Government scheme but Free School Meals to all P1-P5 pupils is a total waste of money. The food waste is staggering, basically we are buying food for children to throw in the bin!! Not all families with children in P1-P5 need Free School Meals... some of our families are very wealthy and do not need this!! We often see children bringing their own lunch from home just incase they don't like the school meal! Total waste of money!!!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Universal Free School Meals is the responsibility of the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The Scots Government have been promising free school meals for all primary school children for years and each year pledge to do it and then don't. For some kids this is their only hot meal. This needs to be brought in immediately.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Providing free meals to all P1-P5 is unnecessary and a waste of money. The daily food waste is astonishing! Someone in authority should visit school lunch halls to see for themselves. Many parents order a school meal simply because it's 'free' and also send their child to school with a packed lunch just incase they don't like the school meal.... Tens of thousands of pounds could be saved here if this was addressed!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals for all P1-P5 pupils is a waste of money. Many parents do not need this. It would make more sense to increase the benefit cap to capture more parents on middle incomes than give free to all. The food waste in school is enormous with many children bringing their own packed lunch from home incase they don't like the school lunch ordered by the parent.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If the joint household income is in excess of £50,000 a year, then the parents should pay for school meals.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All pupils who are entitled to free school meals are also not using this service so could a survey be brought out instead of the funding being issued to pupils who are never going to use the service to reduce costs?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Lunches, uniforms etc should all be means tested rather than a blanket cover such as the current free lunches for all pupils of certain ages.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think these services are key to support our most vulnerable families during very difficult times. I don't think we should provide universal free meals but should focus on the lowest income and vulnerable pupils.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't feel free school meals are necessary for those of us that can afford to pay.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Would be happy for this stuff to be means tested.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Happy for those who can afford to pay to pay for their own children	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Children from low income families should benefit from free school meals only	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals should be offered to those who need it even if that means the council using discretion to provide to those who fall out with the govt criteria eg some who really need meals are just out with income criteria and I would like a council who recognises that and protects those people.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I think we could save money by only offering free school meals to those who need it, not everyone. I am happy to pay for my child's food	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school only to children who need it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Every school child so have a free meal	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Increase the allowed earnings threshold and stop free school meals for all. That would help more families in need whilst saving a fortune.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	yes frre meals for all kids	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals should be provided for all school children.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing grants should be removed. Lots of charities in place for providing free school clothes.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	People receive child benefit and tax credits for the purpose of feeding and clothing their child so this service is really not required	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals for all primary ages would be amazing 🙌, not sure if that will work	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel strongly about these services remaining but feel that all children should receive a free school meal.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't feel the need for everyone to receive free school meals, milk, etc these should only be provided for the people who need them.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	So where does the saving come from, nothing on your statement about details where savings your claiming will be made with any clarity. I also disagree with the Scottish government approach to free for all, I deliberately provided packed lunch to my children in primary in order to not take up any free provision when I was full able to make payment for school meals. For me as a parent you should be able to opt out of the free school meals and know that money is being allocated to resources elsewhere in the education system. Having a school where all meals are free for all yet the school can't afford to buy paper and pens or colouring crayons for the children is simply wrong!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Only children who need free meals including breakfast should receive.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Saving on education yet fund free clothing. I bet the majority of people that claims free clothing have a phone contract and at least some spending that could be diverted to an ASDA uniform. Not required.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Fortunately we have no issue clothing or feeding our child so do not rely on WLC to do this. I do know that some parents, even though they do not need it, have their child take a free packed lunch on a Friday for example. This does increase costs which I feel could be redirect to feeding children who really need it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	We should only be providing help to those who need it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	At what point do the parents get involved with feeding/clothing their children. HMRC still have Working Tax Credits and Childrens tax Credits which is paid by the UK government to cover these costs. Why should the tax payers foot this cost whilst the parents can easily afford new phones and plenty of tattoos. The cost of school clothing sold by Tesco and Asda are reasonable priced and friends with children at school say some schools work an exchange of uniform once the pupils outgrow them.The school	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The above does not explain what the Scottish Government funding levels are and what change this would mean - more or less free school meals? I presume the latter. Young people and families should be given what they need. Ideally this should be means tested rather than free for all and that is perhaps where savings could be made across the piece. Children should receive more support in school to 'enjoy' the free food that they are provided and adults in that environment should be encouraged to sit down and eat with the children to ensure tummies are filled, but also that waste is reduced. Has the council considered combining the provision of food for children and the elderly in the local community (for those elderly people able to get to school buildings). Does this create any opportunities to reduce heating and resource costs elsewhere? My understanding is that there are great welfare benefits to be had from bringing children and elderly together.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals are vital and for some of our children and families it may be the only meals they get in a day.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Clothing allowances should be paid but it is clear some parents use this money for other things including for themselves leaving children without and services having to step in and provide additional support.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All young primary school students should get a free school lunch from P1 to P7 and again not just the deprived households.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Scottish Government has provided a parliamentary commitment to provide this. P1-P5 children are already universally in receipt of free school meals.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I feel the free school meals for all is not necessary. Of course those who need, meet requirements for free school meals should get these but currently my child receives free meals, when I could be paying for it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I disagree with the free provision for school meals and breakfast for all as only those who are in desperate need of this should be receiving this. Why do certain council employees within schools also get access to free meals throughout their day? When this would not be afforded in other workplaces.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	School clothing grants should be vouchers to make sure that it's spent on the children	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free school meals should NOT be available to all children most parents can afford school meals and are willing to pay this could be huge savings for council	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Can the government not be questioned about this provision?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Many families who would not qualify for free school meals are actually living in poverty and they will become more reliant on free school meals and breakfast clubs etc.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The free school meals provision needs to be reviewed. I was perfectly able and willing to pay for my daughter but was not allowed to.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not everyone needs a free school meal for their child. This should be done on a means tested basis and only given to those in need. With breakfast club maybe there should be a minimal charge for this, again with means testing to ensure those in need are catered for.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Free meals should be means tested and not available to all. Music provision should be nominal charge only if at all for the future generation.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is unclear from the above what the change is. Have the council been supporting additional free school meals/ lunches? - it is difficult to comment without more information.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Those most in need should be prioritised. Universal provisions should be reviewed by the Scottish Government.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Universal provision is required by legislation, but this, and similar comments can be brought to the attention of the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I work 20 hours per week minimum wage as a single mum and I apparently earn too much for school meals.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. Provision of FSM and free breakfasts is in line with national legislative requirements and criteria.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Threshold is too low	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council has agreed the provision of school clothing grant, including the level of income below which it is paid, during budget deliberations. Clothing Grants are targeted at those most in need.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	uniform grants thresholds is far too low	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council has agreed the provision of school clothing grant, including the level of income below which it is paid, during budget deliberations. Clothing Grants are targeted at those most in need.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does this mean though? Presumably aligning to sg means reducing current provision if you're saving nearly a million? The political speak in this is ridiculous and you are deliberately being vague so people don't know what you're actually proposing	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	You need to give us facts and figures of where these savings will come from, aligned with who/what!? Again, we are making this far more difficult for families and young people who need our support more than ever!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, but specific funding will now be provided by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is not clear how the saving would be obtained.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	That all sounds good but what is not clear is how it would result in an estimated saving of £890,000. Again, impossible to comment without a clear idea of what exactly is being sacrificed/rationalized in order to achieve the stated aims.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What is ACTUALLY being cut here?!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This statement is vague at best. It does not specify what would be cut to align with Scottish government funding.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	More information would be needed. The proposal doesn't state if the only money that would be used to fund these services would be Scottish Government funding or if the council will continue to additionally fund in addition to Scottish Government funding. The proposal also doesn't provide information about what this will mean practically for these services.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure you are telling me where the saving would come from, this money should be increased due to poverty at the moment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	All you have said here is that we will continue to do X. How is continuing to do the same saving money? This is vague and ill described.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Align free school meal..'' needs to move beyond jargon and explain clearly that presumably either this service will be cut, or some families will be charged for services - this needs to be spelt out much more clearly as it is too vague	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is confusing.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again what are you trying to say?!!!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, I'm confused. Your paragraph above seems to extol wonderful initiatives offered by the council, but caveats it with a massive £ value in savings we can get by providing less of it. Maybe I'm missing the point of this whole questionnaire. Is it just to make the Council feel better about shafting people? Or making people agree with the shafting before implementation. Ragged trousered philanthropists indeed!! I want to see a breakdown of your numbers.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This sounds like a reduction in a vital service. The details of the impact of these cuts, and therefore these savings need to be fully detailed to allow a more detailed response to this questions.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	More detail required on this statement. Not clear how you are making a saving?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not clear if this means improving, reducing or maintaining school meal, breakfast club etc. Please be clearer about the intention or what is the point in asking people their thoughts.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What will the changes mean? Again, not enough detail to judge the impact this might have though I would imagine this would disproportionately affect poorer families.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is confusing.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to how it would affect individuals.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not enough detail provided.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	'Tis is not clear about what would actually change! Aligning to government funding doesn't tell me what would be cut exactly! This survey us a disgrace as nothing is clearly explained for the lay person and no clear stipulations are made annoy exactly what and how much things will be cut by.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Again, unclear where the saving is. What do WLC do just now and what is Scot Gov funding levels?!?! How are we meant to be consulted when the full information isn't shared or made clear.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	You haven't explained to someone who isn't informed on the details of funding levels what this actually means. Does that mean more affluent families will have to pay for the school meals and breakfast club and music provision? I am supportive as long it works logistically and there's no stigma able to arise between those receiving free provision and those who pay.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	See my answers above. The proposal appears to be purposely obtuse rather than detailing how the savings would be made	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This appears to psh the focus of what happens in this area to the Scottish Government. That is not something which we view as bad in itself, but again it is going to affect the worst off in society, which is not an approach that the LLBCC can condone. Further engagement and explanation of the detail is requested.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I can't make an informed comment if the pros and cons aren't clear. Does aligning funding to Scot Gov level represent a reduction in service in West Lothian? Why not just make the saving if it's clearly a good idea, why are you spending money and asking the public to spend time on this survey if it's a rubber stamp? In the context of public savings, if all the options for savings in this survey are as clearly net benefit to public as described, why not save a little more money by not doing this survey?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This statement gives NO indication of how this current provision is to being considered being reduced and does not say if the cost savings of £890,000 will negatively impact recipients of the present levels of service.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This is worded in a way that is deliberately misleading and difficult to know what is planned. If you are taking away breakfast clubs and music lessons then you are asking the most vulnerable to pay. That will see children go hungry, parents lose work without vital childcare from breakfast clubs and music lessons available on to the wealthy. All of this increases inequality. ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What does this mean? A reduction of free services or an increase as a result of more government funding?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Not sure how there would be a saving here if the status quo is maintained - unless this means breakfast club is not open to all pupils after the cuts. Not clear.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What are charging for and how will the service change. Insufficient details to fully consider	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	Can I assume that 'align' means cut here?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, but funded from an alternative source,
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	What's Scottish Government funding levels? Don't know how you expect responses when your context isn't fully giving details of proposed savings will be made, not enough detailed information given.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	This isn't clear at all what would be cut to align this with budget levels?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	As with all other sections, you do not provide very much detail on which the public can comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If you are maintaining levels how are you saving money?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	How is a saving delivered by by aligning delivery of these activities or payments with what is provided for under government funding or maintains at current levels. Are services currently being provided at costs higher than available funding and if so what specifically would be reduced to deliver savings.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, funded from a different source.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It is not clear what "realignment with SG funding levels" means. Does this mean reduction of breakfast club and music lessons etc in line with the reduction in SG funding? How can we meaningfully comment on such a vague and possibly misleading question?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	I'm not clear on your objectives here. You appear to be saying you are maintaining levels or aligning services yet you are saving money. More detail required before I can comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	If these services are continuing how can savings be made? Totally confusing	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.
Modernising our council	1E Realignment of free provision in schools to match Scottish Government commitments and funding, and maintain school clothing grants at current levels	It's not clear from above where the savings will be found. Please consult with plain language instead of euphemisms.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Provision will continue, but funded by the Scottish Government which allows the Council to reduce the funding it currently provides.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	More use of outside providers would facilitate this and enhance children's learning experiences with the added long term benefit of better educated citizens.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As long as children aren't being penalised and still get the education that they deserve and parents who work during school hours aren't unduly affected by having to find childcare for short periods of time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposal will not necessarily reduce school hours so there need not be any impact on childcare.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Providing after school activities within a school day may offer children with transport struggles an opportunity to participate. ; Homework rooms, within school hours, this will help with attainment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Hybrid learning could be introduced for Secondary school which would maintain hours without direct teacher involvement.; Parents should have more involvement at school level to support decision making and impact assessment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Opportunities for parental involvement exist through Parent Councils.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Opportunity to support well being of children and young people and develop opportunities for wider achievement	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This sounds good in theory but schools may need additional resources to do this rather than less.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Education should be taking a share of the cuts. Overly protected by politicians at expense of many other vital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As long as the standard of education is kept I see no problem with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Whilst this is a possible option, it must be a robust model that is proposed f	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Sea reasonable what is the plan for children to be doing with less teacher face time	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As long as children still learn.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As long as learning is not going to be impacted - and thought was given around how children during transtion might need a but more direct time with their new teacher.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	If this can be done whilst still raising the levels of attainment then it makes sense. If attainment improvements cannot be guaranteed then alternative ideas should be reviewed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Sounds good just get the holidays sorted out and aligned to edinburgh better. Get Sinclair academy online and reducing transport costs for kids and get kids in from neighbouring school in SQ	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Make this time inclusive to assist varied learning styles, develop life skills and create education in a fun environment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As long as this provides a worthwhile and valuable experience for children, then fair enough. It is vital though that this time of filled with "value add" and is not simply a means to get the kids off the books in order to save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Without further details unable to comment. However, so long as pupils get the full support they need, especially those with dyslexia, dysplasia and ADHD all of which seem to be increasing, that seems OK, although achievements were down this year. Need to encourage more, not less, assessment rather than exams which put too much pressure on the children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposal would apply to all children, but the significant additional support provided to some pupils with additional support needs or to address socio-economic disadvantage would remain.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As long as continuity in class is maintained this could leave time for extracurricular items.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	No - education shouldn't be reduced. What's the point of keeping them in school but not learning. They should be learning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This sounds like a feasible and manageable solutuon	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Agree. Children don't just learn from teachers,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Reducing the secondary school week by 50 minutes a week is only a 10 minute a day reduction and can easily be managed without compromising on pupils learning experience. I entirely support this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As long as staffing hours are not cut or impacting negatively on pupils. Schools are places that is not just for learning but often a way of massively looking after wellbeing and building confidence for them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As long as the children gained something positive from the alternative learning experiences	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	If all RCCT was given on the Friday morning to all Primary school teachers, this would help continuity throughout the week for pupils. It would also impact on work overload, mental health (teachers off on long term absence due to stress which costs the council) and disparity in work life balance. It would save money and give children and teachers a chance to experience and deliver a high quality education programme.; If schools were closed on Fridays you would be saving on heating and electricity. CAT sessions could be online. Many parents have child care arrangements already in place for the Friday.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What can I say great stuff.yet again	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this is a good idea, but that afternoon sessions should be optional so that pupils can choose to do activities outside of school or study in the afternoons.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This doesn't make sense to me	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Looks amazing 😊	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree but support needs to be available	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What would take the place of teacher contact time? Life skills, practical hands on skills would be beneficial at all stages from primary up to high school	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would be a cost effective way of saving money as there wouldn't be a need to NCCCT teachers and they could be redeployed back into schools only worry this would lead to less jobs?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'd be open to this. My only concern is that as a Home Economics teacher, 50 minutes is not a lot of time to cook something. I'd be interested to learn more about this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Restructure all you want not much learning time lost.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as the children are getting properly supervised and educated within the school is good but what extra activities are being considered when teachers reduce their time with them? Also is it not more expensive to bring in specialist help than for the teachers to educate and supervise the pupils. If teachers teaching time is being reduced will their wages reflect this?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this would be beneficial for pupils and families, and would relieve pressure on SLT to deliver RCCT time to teachers. I would be concerned about vulnerable children and families though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't feel 50 minutes would have a significant impact on L&T. I understand this is essential and will be largely unavoidable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If school opening times are not reduced then this could be a potential saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The time the kids are in school is more than enough.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this is a good idea. I feel alternative learning experiences is exactly what children need for many reasons, in particular the variety of new things and possible hands on play and new teaching methods.; For secondary schools this isn't clear what will be done in these hours where the hours are saved? Will the children have more study/break time? This needs to be clearer. It needs to still have structure and children still need to be accountable for this time and be assisted with useful and educational use of this time?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you can save 2.4m on this then do so but don't reduce teacher numbers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is an interesting concept and would like to see how it would work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Fantastic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This could work but only by getting specialists back into school, not reducing experts in their field or teachers or support staff in our schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers are not coping - workload is increasing to deal with pupil needs/behaviours and endless paperwork. The curriculum is far too wide and impossible to cover. I agree teachers need increased non contact time in order to have any chance of supporting attainment. This would improve staff wellbeing and in turn reduce staff absences and stress.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think that this would be an ideal time to look at enhanced pupil welfare, using non-teaching staff with a social pedagogy approach for that wider learning about the environment etc through first-hand experience.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would like to see this change as long as there is no loss to the support the children need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is clear that at the moment pupils are being given the best structure to their school day and has resulted in much improved results for them. They already have really positive learning experiences. I believe that the length of the school day does not need to change .What has been proposed is a good way forward as long as it enhances the learning experience, and it maintains continuity.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would welcome more opportunities for children to learn more practical skills from the get go.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers are not coping - workload is increasing to deal with pupil needs/behaviours and endless paperwork. The curriculum is far too wide and impossible to cover. I agree teachers need increased non contact time in order to have any chance of supporting attainment. This would improve staff wellbeing and in turn reduce staff absences and stress.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as ample funding was provided for these 'alternative learning experiences'. which may cost more than the proposed 2.4 million saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Staff are overworked and stressed and the complex needs in schools are increasing making staff workload higher. Increased noncontact time will reduce stress for staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The government wish to reduce the contact time to 20.5 hours so I think you should plan for that instead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I agree with a re-structure and i feel the move to a four day working week in secondary, with 4 x 8 period days would help with staff retention and overall wellbeing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again this would only work if you can ensure good provision by support staff with a robust training and monitoring system.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is confusing at least . How do you reduce the school week by 50 mins without reducing start and end times., and how does this make savings ? Teaching staff are contracted 35 hours per week regardless of contact time . At a time when education is recovering from a global pandemic is it wise to reduce teaching time. The 50 minutes of "Alternative Learning Experiences" would create costs when we already have teachers in place.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as they still get schooling have no problem	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think that non-teaching staff could also provide quality experiences for children. It would be great if people from other sectors could work with schools to deliver part of the curriculum, to help children to learn about different career paths from an early age.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Interested to see the changes implemented here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as the alternative learning experiences are of substance	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would make so much sense. As a parent and a teacher, I wholly support this. It would also meet other needs to ensure adequate staffing, children accessing other services and activities they would benefit from, teachers could then plan more effectively.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If it was a digital lesson at home 1st then maybe	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would support this measure in principal, however, more information regarding alternative learning experiences would need to be provided.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Broadly agree with this but would like more detail to make sure the quality of learning is not diluted.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Yes, this cost saving of £2.4 M is needed, please proceed with these changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as you are ensuring that the children are receiving a full rounded education.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds like a good opportunity to ensure children have the highest quality input during their time in school. 20 quality hours with a teacher, with the other 2.5hrs provided by e.g. sports coaches, arts specialists will provide a rich and varied experience for children. It is important that the only 'worth' is not placed on the direct time in a classroom with a teacher but that the wide and diverse workforce is valued- this is the world our children are entering into and it is important that not only a narrow view is presented to them and that the contributions and skills of others are valued equally to the academic input of teachers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this could be a good saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you can keep education at the same level with no negative impact and save £2.4 million it should have been implemented before now.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	You could do this by extending children's lunch breaks as this is definitely a problem a lot of schools are struggling with. Many children are only getting 15 minutes to eat due to the turnover rate to get them all served and seated. This would free up teaching time and extend learning through play whilst maintaining a healthy mental wellbeing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I suppose that is ok as long as they are getting the same teaching hours as the rest of Scotland.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds an interesting proposal. Alternative learning experiences work well for some people. ; You would need to be very careful that the staff delivering the alternative learning experiences were fully trained and willing to work with young people, even if they displayed challenging behaviours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I consider this to be a good idea and secondary schools should be in line with other local authorities'.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Good as long as the changes are instrumental to learning	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	My children attend Torphichen Primary who have really pushed forward with agile learning. The past 2 years have been such a wonderful experience for them with them learning how to learn and explore rather than being taught by rote. This is a much more natural way of learning and should be welcomed across the board so long as there is scope to support children who are unable to thrive in that learning environment. It should be done with respect for the learning style and with appropriate support rather than as a cost cutting measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds interesting & would be looking for more information on this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So long as right curriculum is taught within the reduced timing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as every child can read write and count, you can make these changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	happy with this arrangement	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sensible proposal as long as pupil discipline does not deteriorate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as children were learning and gaining experiences from the lost teacher time there shouldn't be an issue. More info on what this could mean would be helpful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What are the 'alternate learning experiences' if not provided by teachers? ; ; Opportunity to think creatively about the structure of the school week? ; ; Asymmetric week could be reduced to 4 days with pupils and parents benefitting from a longer weekend for young people to access community and sports	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I believe there has been a number of studies on different methods of teaching, this might not be a bad thing to consider. Providing the children are actually learning something worthwhile and it's not them finding something to do for 50 mins with no actual gain to them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as they are in school, it's difficult enough for working parent(s) to work around school times. Not all children will respond to this type of learning .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think providing alternative learning experiences is a great idea as everyone learns in different ways and in different settings, however, I will be interested to see how this is managed as it will need to be thought through carefully to ensure it is a worthwhile experience for learners and not just a baby-sitting exercise so teachers can receive their increased NCCT.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a very big saving. Is it achievable? Please review carefully; If so just get on with it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think getting the balance right for parents and employers to make childcare and resource work is crucial so getting this right for all would be good to see with no impact to education for our future Scotland	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Cut play times and make 45mins for lunch.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Rethink this is a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This seems like a reasonable adjustment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would be positive, and students would be more familiar with the structure of their day when they transition to secondary school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Makes sense as long as pupils are still supported and have access to the same amount of learning opportunities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again given the context of the financial savings required by the council, this seems a reasonable proposal that would have minimal impact on learning for primary and secondary school children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Could be okay but children still need time with their teachers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds a good plan again as long as the time spent outwith being with the teacher offered stimulation and again no vulnerable children fell through the net of teaching support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	ok if others do it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as the learning and work being completed to the correct level.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I agree agile learning works and PSW's should engage more if these activities cooking, arts and crafts etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Seems reasonable. Don't know why local authorities are not more aligned in their approach to a whole host of service provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think it would be good for the continuity of primary and secondary school contact times with teachers to be the same. Since the pandemic literacy and numeracy skills have decreased. By reducing contact time will this not make the gap increased	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Seems fine if the quality of education is maintained	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds like a fantastic idea. Teachers are not parents. They're to educate. Most children switch of after 30 minutes. So shortening their day might improve what they are taking in.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Seems a fair proposal but use the same mind set on the previous question	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If the proposal brings us in line with other Local Authorities then that is sensible. However West Lothian typically performs well in Education, and it would be a shame if learning declined as a result of this - however there should be ways to mitigate that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds fair - the standard of education in your schools is excellent as it is, and savings must be made somehow, so if the Education staff feel that this will not be detrimental to children's learning and wellbeing then I'm all for it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A very good idea. However I know of no other profession (than teaching) where contact time is so low- as an alternative could teacher contact hours be increased.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Seems like a good approach. Perhaps investment in this time in wellness activities for staff and pupils. I think West Lothian's school week (half day on a Friday) is a huge accolade.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	if there were crative options that engage all pupils, this could work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children have suffered greatly as a result if the Covid period and schools are only just returning to a sense of normality. To make further changes and introduce new staffing to children already struggling to deal with the aftermath of lockdowns and protocols would be detrimental to their educational recovery. External agencies and third party providers can not replace teaching input.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Changes in the traditional school day should definitely be considered. Learning experiences come in many different ways and should reflect the diversity of individuals and change/develop as the world around us does. It does not have to be a Teacher facing classroom day to be a valuable learning experience.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Could be worse, I guess.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for our response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds like a good idea but I am assuming that other staff will be trained accordingly. Sometimes PSW can be old school and do not have a nurturing approach. This has to be identified and correct support given especially when pupils will be spending time with these people more. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would have no issue with this as long as the alternative learning opportunities provided are really valuable. I would not want to see any increase in home-learning/home work as a direct of the reduced teaching time. I believe there is already too much pressure on parents/families to ensure homework is completed on a weekly basis (based on primary school experience to-date).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Ok as long as it didn't effect school staff numbers or the opportunities available for pupils	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as there is no change to the core school hours (as otherwise people with jobs will have to fund additional after school costs, which may make working not viable)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Do more at home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils have had enough disruption over the last 2 years	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	My high school son does tell me a lot of time can be wasted in classes. He spends time on his phone. Anything that can be done to improve this is welcome. le online learning etc as long as it was structured I feel this would be good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Start and end times for the day , yes too much free time for kids during the day though with many just doing as they please as not in school ground's	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds like a good way to make a substantial saving to the council with no adverse effect on our learners	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If this does not have any negative impact on the children then I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Council should experiment in schools to try out new teaching / learning and gather feedback to find the best methods	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would ok if the assessment system was adapted to cater for that.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would welcome this approach but the reduction of class contact time must continue to be used to develop other skills and interests for children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What does this actually mean? "Alternative learning experiences"? ; The school day cannot be reduced any further as this impacts not only on children's learning (investment in the country's future) but also in parents' ability to work. But I also think school time which is spent in PE, music is still valuable and benefits their other learning. It needs to be provided for, though. e.g. appropriate instructors.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Lead professionals for children are responsible for their wellbeing and getting it right. While children are in school the staff are responsible for their care. This could be an opportunity to invest more in children's emotional wellbeing if non-teaching staff are responsible for children more?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Looks like there are opportunities and a desire to challenge the traditional status quo in terms of school hrs etc. I would also welcome a change to the more traditional curriculum with a view to promoting more life-skill type skills.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	See huge benefits to this proposal and think it should be seriously considered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What exactly does alternative learning experiences mean? Activities run by lower paid staff? ; No issue at all with possible realignment of school day if it does not detract from quality educational opportunities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would be an effective way to delivery teachers non-contact time if alternative experiences were offered by agencies outside teachers or SLT	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If recognising that children have different learning styles and the changes are in line with this then its a positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Anything that helps the children grow and learn in a safe and secure environment works for me. Can't quite figure out how the start and end time of school will remain the same but reducing the school week by 50 minutes ?? baffles me !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Good idea as long as the learning is not impacted. If covid has taught us anything surely it is that we need to adapt & support alternative ways of providing the learning experience	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I have no objection to adjusting school day structure however this should be led by learning and teaching theory/evidence. Schools should not be used as a child care facility.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this would be beneficial	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	this appears to be a big potential cost reduction for simply realignment of the structure of a school week. If it meets the Scottish Government requirements then why would anyone spend £2.4 M more than needed?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as there is no change to start and end times then shouldn't be an issue for childcare otherwise could cause issues and be more expensive for the council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Use the community to provide extra-curricular activities and experiences to pupils as much as possible.; Let out school estate to providers to generate income.; Invest in and value your teaching profession - it will benefit the Council in the long run when the future society it produces is educated and skilled.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time, and this can include community partnership.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I also agree with alternative teaching/ learning opportunities for children as not all children thrive in a traditional classroom basis	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I wholeheartedly align with anything that ensures teachers are given as much support to plan, update etc lessons during school hours without the detriment to the children. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	good, frankly the less contact some "teachers" have with kids the better	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Learning doesn't all need to be in the classroom. How about a clubs afternoon with parents/ others helping to lead chess/ music (a choir?)/ sport - table tennis, badminton as well as the usual football. There are some good things we have lost along the way.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time, and this can include community partnership.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher contact may be reduced future. As a teacher I would like contact to be reduced further - but that's a matter for the unions and Scottish government. How can you reduce pupil contact without changing the school start and finish time? It would be nice to have more that 15 mins break and 30 mins for lunch (west calder high) but we need to chaperone the kids anyway so how can this been done?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Only if content will not be removed. The means of teaching can be self-learning, etc. with less teacher contact time, as long as there is an option for supporting those who need it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Potentially a good idea, but who would provide the alternative learning experiences? Also, this would impact on attainment if children are receiving 2.5 hours less time with a teacher. If active schools or similar were providing the alternative experiences or other agencies that were able to tackle some of the E's and O's from other curricular areas then this could work, with teachers still able to spend the same time on the core areas that are reported on for attainment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a solution focussed idea but the planning around this would need careful consideration in terms of the alternative provision and how in practice this would work. Asymmetrical week would allow for teacher planning time without the need for cover costs which will only become more problematic with the decreased contact time proposed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I can't comment on how this effects primary pupils, from my understanding of what is written above this seems like a feasible solution in secondary that is not detrimental to pupil experience or teacher workload,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	School should not be used for community groups - they should be in partnerships. Cannot be cost effective to open schools at the weekend.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If it doesn't effect the learning of a child or lead to staff cuts this sounds promising.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Open to alternative learning experiences as we don't see any additional sports, music, home economics, sewing, knitting etc. I would like the school day to include a (close to) full day on a Friday like the rest of Scotland (not Lothian). It's not convenient for working parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. No change to the asymmetric week is planned.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think play and socialisation are undervalued so this change may allow for more importance and opportunity for both.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I fully support this measure which will deliver savings without adversely impacting on attainment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would agreebut would need to be primary only	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This should be used as an opportunity to deliver high quality choices for extra-curricular activities such as sport/fitness/forest schools. This would also help to meet the government incentive to reduce childhood obesity. Children should have at least an hour per day of exercise.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No major issue with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as there was no change to the school hours and the alternative learning opportunities were valuable and not simply "filler" then this seems reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If the paragraph above is accurate, it seems hard to object to this, however what's key is ensuring that those 22.5hours are in fact fulfilled - too often teachers are absent with no subject specialist supply, and a huge amount of learning time lost as a result. So, reducing the school week by a total of 50 mins is far less concerning than weeks of e.g. no science teacher.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Change the school day to align with teachers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I agree as long as it primary	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	That may work if children attend schools in their own catchment areas and are not overloaded in classrooms with pupils from out of catchment applications.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as support staff wages are not cut in the process with aligned hours	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The proposal will not impact on teacher salaries.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Good idea! Children can learn in the absence of teachers - fact. Its time the dinosaurs in the teaching profession, particularly those in the 'professional associations', dragged themselves kicking and screaming into the 21st century.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Im in favour of alterative learning experiences but by whom?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree. Has the council considered moving to a four day school week to reduce transport and heating costs which would not impact on school provision?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The number of days that schools must open is set by regulation, but this idea could be explored on a national basis with the Scottish Government with the suggestion that Council's are given greater flexibility.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as the effects were not going to be detrimental to the childrens education and necessary support available.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	To align school times would be good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Could work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I see no immediate issues with proposal however I would like further detail on how the significant saving can be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Giving opportunities for life skills- this could be used in non teacher times. First aid etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I agree as looking as children who find this difficult or have additional needs are fully supported by person to person staffing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. No change is planned for support arrangements for ASN pupils as part of this proposal.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not supportive unless the reducing in teaching time is meet with teaching the children other life skills like outdoor activities for primary / walking daily miles and life skills for secondary school children rather than additional ' free time'.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree to aligning primary school time to 22.5 hours per week.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Good planning very much in agreement here. The delivery of the curriculum does not need to be compromised especially with use of technology, on-line resources, access from home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this could be a good thing .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Could be worth a trial	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If there was more digital and online learning, I think this would be positive and help children learn how to regulate their time and learning themselves and start them on journey for many jobs/careers that use this kind of technology for learning/working.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Could work depends on how the non teaching time is filled. Engage with sports clubs and sports governing bodies to provide additional sporting opportunities for this time. Or expressive arts music groups to offer alternative learning opportunities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is the only way forward. It will make no difference to educational outcomes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Yes agreed, children learn better when they start later	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Yes. For 2.4 million pounds let's try this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Yes absolutely, that makes sense from the way it is described above.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as the alternative activities are good e.g. more sports, play, art, reading etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again as long as the education of the kids is improved then it seems a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, need to see detail but sounds sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Seems a reasonable approach, but again, not fully informed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this in theory sounds good, but what would the children be doing the rest of the time	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I have no bother with the children having a longer lunch time. I think this would bring a saving for many families as children could come home for lunch instead of packed lunches. I disagree that they get enough contact time. Classes are too short and are often not covered by the subject teacher. The standards of education is constantly dropping and is geared purely towards passing tests rather than gaining knowledge.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This doesn't really make sense because it is poorly described. But if children are getting decent breaks and no less teacher time it seems OK. They should be getting evidence based drugs prevention course as per Scottish government recommendations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Needs must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers are one of our most valuable assets and should be treated as required to retain their motivation and quality learning for our pupils. I would be keen to know if the teachers imminent pay award will take cognisance of this proposal to carry our less direct teaching time?; Whilst these proposals are for the school day, consideration should be given to how the extended school day can play a greater role in supporting desired outcomes for our pupils. Suitable extracurricular provision and engagement with community activities are no utilised anywhere near enough to support the attainment, health and wellbeing and development of life/job skills for pupils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Teachers in west Lothian will benefit from the national pay award based on their current hours of work which will remain unaltered. Suitable alternative and community activities could for part of the proposal, as suggested.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this would be a great idea and if possible longer breaks for pupils or add in things like library time or self study time for secondary schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would the 2.4 million be saved with the salaries saved for teachers and replaced by pupil support staff? If the teacher contact time is 22.5 hour pw for primary then it would be realistic to pay for the hours contracted and have the balance of the hours required covered by support staff, if carried out on a rotational basis one support member of staff could be used between all classes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Is this another way of cutting teacher pay? It could be a good opportunity to put more value on applied learning or valuing a greater diversity of skills	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Teachers in west Lothian will benefit from the national pay award based on their current hours of work which will remain unaltered. Suitable alternative y activities could form part of the proposal, as suggested.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds as if stringent economies should be made but I am worried that this will diminish standards. If these cuts are now vital, why haven't they been investigated before?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The proposed reductions are necessary now in response to reduced funding.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	On the Secondary school suggestion, if it is suggesting a similar use of self-learning technology and a similar opportunity to engage with future skills STEM subjects/modern engineering, this would also seem helpful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	On the primary school suggestion, it feels like this should be graduate through the school years, with primary one, two, and three children having no reduction in contact time (for social development reasons), but then the increased use of technology self-learn through four to seven. And if that self-learning could also provide opportunities to stimulate those with an interest in STEM topics, particularly the logical building blocks of modern digital engineering, that would seem a helpful proposal.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response, which indicates agreement with part of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	in higher school but not in primary and the alternative school services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response, which indicates agreement with part of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I can't see how reducing pupil teacher time can possibly benefit the children. You have given no detail on what this would actually mean in hours reduction.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Kids already have limited engagement with teachers. Reducing this further is unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Reducing school hours will impact on childcare costs and affect the ability of some parents to work. Also reduction in school time for the children that have already missed so much schooling through COVID is a disastrous move.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal will not necessarily reduce school hours so there need not be any impact on childcare.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Any reduction in teaching time would have an impact on education and young people's futures. Not an option. Give the emphasis recently in a communication from the school of the impact of children missing school through unauthorised absences and the impact on education, suggesting removing 50 mins from the school week would equate to around 5 days lost schooling in the year.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	i do not really agree with reduction in the pupil/teacher time especially after the significant lose of education caused by Covid which is evident in the attainment figures.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	The key is ensuring that pupils who are our future are supported as far as possible - teachers are important.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Disagree, how many pupils are concentrating properly given the alternative learning experiences. Armadale academy has a outdoor skills session at the rear of the school and the children are not generally concentrating as the area is open to the public.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Reduced contact time but no change in length to the overall school day. What sorcery is this?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Pupils can benefit from activities and learning not involving direct hands on supervision by a teacher.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	as stated previously i doubt very much if teachers are adhering to 22.5 hrs per week if they did then the education system would fail with west lothian council. especially on head teachers who have to do everything from being responsible for the building, looking for terrorist activities in pupils, social workers for pupils and families, health and safety etc etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I do not understand the detail of the changes being proposed here. Given this, I cannot comment on the specifics of this proposal. In principle, I do not agree to teacher/pupil time being reduced particularly as we are currently recovering from the challenges of Covid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Reducing Teachers face to face time with pupils, brilliant idea NOT, also are you magicians ? Taking 50 minutes away from the school week but not changing the starting or finishing time ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Pupils can benefit from activities and learning not involving direct hands on supervision by a teacher.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Pupil/student contact time should not be reduced. If anything, it needs to be increased. Education should be a top priority for the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	What sort of other activities and how would they be managed. To raise attainment pupils need more support and input not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This could have a huge impact on progress within secondary schools, as it's currently difficult to timetable so that pupils receive all that they are entitled to.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Pupils who have already experienced remote learning as a result of covid should be offered more not less teacher contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Less time our children are being taught this is never ever a positive statement I object to this idea. Also those who can take their children to private maths lessons private music lessons and clubs if they can afford to therefore West Lothian Council need to stop cutting back and stealing from our children in terms of schooling and also youth clubs and our children's clubs which are fantastic value for 1.00 entry free. Leave these areas alone. Children have the right to q club to go to in the evenings to hang with friends safely off he street.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Less time.in education. Never do this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Wow that is a very broad statement - so who would be responsible for the children and where is the quality provision - this is definite no thank you.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	NO NO NO NO - THIS IS UTTERLY RIDICULOUS!!!!!! Our young people have had such a rough deal the last few years, yet you wish to make their education experience even worse!! Some of these children need additional, not less! What a Joke!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I believe this effectively means - the total period of the school day remaining as is - but direct contact time with teaching professionals reduced, supplemented by increased contact with "unqualified" supervisory staff - probably OK for +50% of students, but an obvious risk on overall student attainment for a significant proportion of the pupils. What is the split on savings between the 2 elements of the proposal? How would the financial savings be achieved - by reducing payment to teaching staff?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Not in favour. Children have already list so much vital class time through covid lockdown. This would disadvantage again the same cohort group	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	From what I can tell this seems to suggest reducing the time children have with teachers. This does not seem to be a great plan for the childrens learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	The model in other authorities to have time beyond class for wider experiences has had many barriers in terms of success for learners. If WL were to go down this route, they would have to consider the effectiveness and equity of whatever programme they were to put in place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Seems like an awful lot of moving the deck chairs on the titanic - how much would it cost to sort all this out? Really feel the young people are so far behind due to pandemic less teaching time is not a good idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Would like to see further details but at secondary level contact time with teachers is already at a minimum to deliver teaching needed for success in national exams. I'd be worried there would be a negative impact on pupil attainment if teaching time was reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Not to sure about this one , I fear some pupils will be left behind.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As a separate comment - if teachers are already only require to be teaching for 22.5 hours a week (!!!) where is the evidence that even less teacher contact time won't impact on educational outcomes. Strongly disagree with this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The additional teaching hours are currently provided by additional teachers.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Our kids have missed too much education owing to Covid to cut more time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Totally unacceptable. Our children should not be affected by any more cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Nor reduce hrs in school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Balance here favours teachers not pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I have no words for anove proposal! Primary is particular have had enough reduced teacher pupil time in past 2 years. Pupils are way down list of priorities and proposal above supports what I say. Its all about ticking boxes and yet again staff feeling undervalued. Class suzes need to be reduced and increased teacher stuent interaction,not less as you are proposing. Again above statement is just more elaborate waffle	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Less teacher time, less education. Our children are being let down by this, who would look after them as you are turning it into a baby sitting service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	What would be offered instead? It still needs staffed and children still need to learn!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	So further crippling an education system that is already on its knees and has seen a severe deterioration in effectiveness over the last 3 decades... Does that really sound like a good idea? Unless, of course, you're planning on somehow utilising the extra non-contact time that pupils will have to educate them on how to survive real life in today's world? You know... Things like how to budget, how to tell the time, basic literacy and numeracy skills, how a family of four can survive with 2 parents working 4 jobs between them and still living in poverty... The basics? Yes?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Absolutely not!!! Creating contracts for more school staff to allow children full face-to-face teaching is essential. Teachers need non-contact time but there are no "alternative learning experiences" for children that will be more beneficial than a teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This is a nonsense that must be resisted at all levels. School is there to educate pupils by teachers and is not simply daycare hours to be ticked off.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I do not agree with this proposal. Children have missed enough teaching time over the last few years.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Further detail required and clarification on what is being proposed. This statement otherwise makes no logical sense in practice. Proposal is too vague.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This should not happen, increased pupil teacher time if anything, certainly not reducing it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I was under the impression Pupil's went to school to learn and Teachers were paid to teach full-time not part-time, Cutting school learning activities is wrong and will weaken the future for these children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Children have already been negatively impacted by the affects of the Covid 19 Pandemic. I would be very against any reduction in class contact time. Students need alternative learning experiences as well as their core learning experiences. I think this would have a negative impact on young people and attainment. What other local authorities have this model??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	What exactly does this mean for our childrens education, it's concerning as many working parents rely on schools through the day and then after school care, so more money for the working person to pay out for people to look after children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Teacher/pupil contact time being reduced whilst achieving a reduction in costs seems like a way to pay teachers less or progressively imply reduced contributions, undermining their contracts. I am very against this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Teacher pay and conditions are set nationally.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	A cost efficiency exercise that will have a huge fundamental impact on the lives and education of our future workforce. Many schools are already failing to meet what I would deem satisfactory face to face time with pupils as it would seem there are few posts being filled and they are constantly out to recruitment. Instead of looking at reducing face to face time and replacing it with 'alternative learning experience' why don't you look into why few seem to want to recruit to teaching?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Does this cover the Scottish Governments commitment to reduce class contact time? Any reduction to class time is only going to have a detrimental effect for the pupils and their learning, given that is already been disrupted due to COVID.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Scottish Government commitment to reduced class contact time will be considered alongside this proposal.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As my response above I strongly believe there should be no budget cuts for our children's education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	A full time teachers class contact is currently 22 1/2 hours with the remaining 2 1/2 hours of the school week being covered by GTCS registered teachers, who in collaboration with the class teacher ensures that the very busy curriculum is met. The council are very keen to highlight the improved attainment results however can they really expect this to continue when they are considering taking 2 1/2 hours out every week to provide alternative learning experiences when we are still recovering from a global pandameic?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Why when education is so poor in scotland would you want to reduce the contact time?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This would align with the contact time across several other authorities.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	No change should be made to school hours but more resources i.e. online should be available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	What are kids going to do if they are in school for the same length of time but teacher contact is reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Disagree. Coming out of pandemic primary teachers in some of our most poor communities are struggling to catch up with learning lost during covid, struggling to get through an already packed curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	The number of hours of contact time seems low, but without knowing what pupils are doing for the rest of the day it is hard to comment further. Maintaining the length of the school day is important so parents don't need to find more childcare to fill the gap, especially those who are in lower paid jobs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	But how would this work. How would it be staffed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Absolutely ludicrous idea .. reduce teaching time when our children in west lothian have some of the poorest achievement in the league tables	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Please DO NOT put our young people "at risk". Far too many management positions seem to be getting protected	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Reducing teacher/pupil contact is not the way to go, some children can only learn with teacher contact, self study does not work for everyone	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Teaching time is important... Cannot think of any cost reducing ideas here. However, would suggest where there are more "demanding" children, there is not a waste of staff resource catering to one particular child at a particular school, but if properly assessed they should be sent to a school that caters to the child's needs for that ward? (ie. one teaching member of staff to one child due to issues that child presents... where is a school or specialised group within a school could help better?) May also lead to better teaching for that child, however, would probably need considered on a case-by-case basis. (Again, may need to consider a shuttle bus and if this would be cost effective). Would remote learning time be a consideration here also? (Could still be carried out under teacher supervision - remote learning similar to what was carried out during covid? Providing more resources electronically could save money and cut costs, but this also comes with investment cost. Perhaps a "reasonable" deposit scheme could be implemented per year for electronic resource that could be refunded if equipment is returned in good condition?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	A nonsensical approach to cost saving at the expense of the pupils who already fall between the cracks because of insufficient support mechanisms to meet current needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	As mentioned before, we strongly disagree with reducing school funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	What is the impact of this reduction of 50 mins on parents? Most are already struggling with childcare and this makes the argument of it being cheaper to be a stay at home parent on benefits argument which would cost the council more in the long run.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The reduction of 50 mins would mean no change to the start and end time of the day.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Don't agree with this...education is important	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Absolutely bonkers. How is this even being considered? Look at the attainment gap - kids need their trusted adults to thrive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This makes less than no sense reducing the week by 50 minutes but not altering the start or finish time?!? Also reducing teaching time so kids just suppose to look after themselves	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	It impacts on the totality of staff required across the week.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	The half day Friday is already a difficulty. I would be hugely concerned if contact teaching hours were reduced any further for primary aged children. I could see potential for secondary where digital is a much greater feature of a young person's everyday life.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This could be extremely damaging for parents relying on children being in school to enable them to work. School may not be childcare per se but it enables parents to work whilst children are safe and critically engaged in learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Cutting teacher pupil contact time will damage attainment and disproportionately impact disadvantaged families and children with ASN.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	In doing this West Lothian council will create an education gap further down the line between pupils here and in other areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This is a terrible idea, teachers are already under pressure to complete the curriculum in the teaching hours they have.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Just no. I wonder what EIS teaching Union would have to say about this?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from professional associations.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Reducing school week? Get a grip! Extend the school week and end the stupid half day Friday.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Sounds like you intend to give pupils longer breaks or unsupervised study time and paying teachers less. That will definitely boost moral, help the attainment gap, reduce anti-social behaviour, help vulnerable pupils and help with the cost of living crisis NOT.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Absolutely not! This is not where any savings should be made. SNP have already made a shambles of our education system.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Doesn't affect me, not convinced it benefits children though	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	They are there to learn. They are there to be taught by qualified teaching professionals. I think the pandemic has shown us that most non-teachers are not capable of keeping kids on track or educating them to the required level. Awful idea. Again, these kids will pay into your pension pot, you don't want them earning minimum wage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The implementation plan will include a workforce plan which will ensure suitably qualified staff matched to each setting.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	No as the kids are still trying to catch up from COVID so reducing teacher contact time isn't going to help. Many kids also don't have the support at home of helping with one to one learning	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Pupils are entitled to 25 hours a week learning time. The 22.5 teacher contact time refers only to the teacher. The 2.5 hours remaining is still teaching time and should be delivered by trained, qualified staff not by the provision of 'baby sitting' (good intentioned though they may be) adults with no investment in child education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Any further reduction in teaching time makes one wonder if we may as well bother teaching children at all? Already West Lothian has lower school teaching contact time than most English schools. Scottish children will be worse off and their education poorer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I'm not sure of the ins and outs of this. What does alternative learning experiences mean? Is this just code for being babysat by less expensive staff?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The implementation plan will include a workforce plan which will ensure suitably qualified staff matched to each setting.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Surely less contact time will result in worse grades. West Lothian is already behind schools in Edinburgh and Glasgow	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	How would the savings be made? By allowing children to be taught by staff who are not qualified teachers? Is there proof that the poverty-related attainment gap has been addressed in WLC? Is there evidence to suggest that children will still progress at the same rate or better, despite having less contact time with teachers?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The implementation plan will include a workforce plan which will ensure suitably qualified staff matched to each setting.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Teacher contact time is 22.5 hrs? So the kids have 15 hours without supervision? How can that be a good thing?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I think a lot of children would just not bother to learn if there was no teacher there to support them. I don't think this is very clear. Would a support teacher be with them or a parent?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The implementation plan will include a workforce plan which will ensure suitably qualified staff matched to each setting.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This is an awful idea, don't think the kids are at school long enough currently. I think we should bring in a full day on a Friday. In order to currently childcare costs for working parents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Who would be helping the children with their work/queries if not with a qualified teacher. Would classroom assistant jobs be increased and would they be qualified enough to do this or even spot potential learning problems	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The implementation plan will include a workforce plan which will ensure suitably qualified staff matched to each setting.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Pupils need a quality education, not some sort of babysitting for part of their week. These young people are our future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I don't believe children are at the forefront of any of these decisions. Given covid and the level of education kids miss there should be no change to anything in schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	It is difficult to see how this would improve learning outcomes for children!!! Please show your working!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Totally disagree with this. The future of children shouldn't be based on their ability to do self directed learning. If teachers are paid for a 35 hour week then they should expect a reduction in salary if only providing 22.5 hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Teacher pay and conditions are decided nationally.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Poor decision. Scotland has the worst educational system in Europe and to look at ways of cutting contact time shows a complete lack of understanding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Really?? After all the missed time at school due to covid? Ridiculous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I have a child at high school who is struggling in some classes such as English and not receiving the support they need due to lack of support staff. Unfortunately I can't afford a tutor, less teacher contact time is really going to make their education suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Absolutely not. There is not enough time in the week to cover the curriculum as it is. 'Agile learning' in its current form does not work. Who will cover the 2.5 hours? Will pupils be plonked in front of a screen and left to get on with it? This is an appalling idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This appears to be a reduction in staff (esp teachers) by other means - if teacher redundancies/lack of sessions for newly qualified teachers is anticipated, then I do not support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who will facilitate the model of an agile curriculum, alternative learning experiences. Children have already had their learning interrupted and affected through COVID where parents were happy for their children to return to the classroom and be taught by teaching staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to ensuring an appropriately qualified workforce to provide appropriate learning experiences, meeting the needs of all learners
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm wondering if this is deliberately worded so nobody knows what you are planning??? ; Sounds like a shortened school day in disguise, squeezing more out of children teachers and parents again. Not good. Teacher contact is already poor compared to when I was in school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I strongly oppose to this. School hours are already too little in my opinion. Trying to save money by compromising our children's education is wrong. We already have to pay for private tutoring tuition to make sure our children are ready for their exams. Which 50mins will go? Maths? English? PE? If this goes ahead, will the children and parents have a say in what gets cut? My children are in S3 and S5. Will that mean 50mins less per week to prepare for their Nat5 and Advanced Higher exams at the end of next school years.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you are reducing teacher contact time, does this mean reducing the number of teachers overall, or reducing their wages? You talk about reducing support staff in 1D - so who is going to supervise the kids for the time that they are not in formal classes?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely appalling if this is to happen. Children need smaller classes and increased teacher hours	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a LUDICROUS idea. Children and young people require ALL the supports while in education. This is an AWFUL proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Once more our children and education staff are being impacted. Certainly by expecting teachers to squeeze even more teaching and learning time in without the valuable experiences the children get from specialists is just a horrifying thought. The children need more meaningful experiences not less! Saving money at the expense of our children is unthinkable...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will not only be detrimental to teachers who will inevitably lose their jobs but also to the well-being of the children in their care. Children should have the opportunity to experience these 'alternative learning experiences' with qualified teachers with whom they have safe and secure relationships with. Children with ASN would not cope with other practitioners without a prior relationship with them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to ensuring an appropriately qualified workforce to provide appropriate learning experiences, meeting the needs of all learners
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	"alternative learning experiences" - really!?! This is the most ridiculous thing to come out of the local government. Perhaps you should speak with the local schools and teachers (the experts) before making any silly changes. Does the Council not consider the education of children a top priority?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any shortening of the school day or the teaching time would be detrimental to the education and attainment of our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There needs to be a clearer curriculum. We need to be putting children in school at 6 with the use of a kindergarten scheme or reevaluate the way primary one is currently structured. The half and half approach is not working for many children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Parents need to know more about proposals to ensure it doesn't impact negatively on working parents and those who may have increased childcare costs due to changes made	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Back to impact on kids	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No teacher pupil c9ntact time should not change	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would like to know what this 'alternative learning experience' would look like before I could fully comment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This proposal is incredibly vague so it almost seems pointless to comment. However, I will add to the discussion based on what I can infer. It sounds like the council intends to remove RCCT teachers at Primary level in order to save on staffing costs. If the start and end times of the school day remain the same then who is supposed to be supervising the pupils while they complete their work, presumably, on a virtual platform? Also, who would be responsible for planning, uploading and assessing the content which is to be delivered remotely? I understand that the council has to make cuts but I can't see any possible scenario in which children's attainment and learning experiences do not suffer as a result of a reduction in their contact time with teachers. Not to mention the extra pressure this would put on school staff who are already being worked beyond capacity. This proposal represents a glaring reduction in service and would not be well received by the vast majority of parents. Many of whom are already skeptical about the benefits of "agile learning".	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is extremely confusing and unclear. What will children be doing for these 2.5hrs where the curriculum would normally be covered? The impact COVID has had on attainment has been devastating and this would no doubt set children back even further and put them at a disadvantage to their peers across the country.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm not in favour of less teacher/pupil contact time. And I fail to see how we are out of step with other authorities given West Lothian has a half day on a Friday.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again I fail to understand what are children meant to do if teacher contact is reduced but school day is is not reduced?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agile learning is not in every school. And is not for every pupil! What about children with additional needs, dyslexia, autism etc. Who is going to manage the 2.5 hours per week when not in class teacher remit? Until disruptive pupils and lack of consequences for behaviour issues is met this will be bedlam. Where will the teachers be in that 2.5 hours? Some may not be in the building! Are HT's still responsible for safety and building during this time? Teachers are struggling with everything being thrown at them as it is, this will simply add to those stresses and eventually lack of teachers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The passage above makes no sense at all as children are already deprived of 1-1 teaching with classes being over populated. Why do people in power mess with a process that is already functioning. If saving money is the goal then what's next.....no teachers at all? It's a disgrace.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There CANNOT be any reduction to the number of teaching staff, PSW or school admin. We are a completely stretched service and cannot handle any less bodies in the school building than we currently have. Everyone plays an essential part and without them it would be incredibly detrimental to the education of our children. There is no way we can maintain let alone raise attainment with less staff. Computers CANNOT teach, support and provide the same experiences as teachers. The quality teaching delivered during RCCT time cannot be squeezed into the remainder of the school day. It is already crammed enough. Education and attainment will suffer without those 2.5hours of allocated time. Staff also work better with long stretched of RCCT. 15 minutes here and there does not give staff enough time to plan quality education. This will lead to further staff stress, staff leaving teaching, staff illnesses and lower quality education for our children.PSWs are essential parts of the support and provision of education of our children. We CANNOT cope with any less PSW hours. Third party providers seems a ridiculous suggestion when you have a wealth of highly educated, highly motivated and experienced teachers at your disposal. This saving if £2.4 million is awful. DO NOT cut school funding or restructure the day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What would be the alternative learning experiences? And less teacher/pupil contact time I do not feel would be good the pupils need this time and the teachers to know their pupils properly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Kids teacher time is already impacted by massive classes and job share arrangements there should be no reduction in teacher contact time. Our kids need more teacher time since covid, to propose less is a total disservice to these young people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A big chunk of these council savings seems to be aimed at reducing the quality of education for our young people, I definitely cannot support this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The children missed enough education they can learn other things after school. It is important the children catch up with all the problems caused by classes missed and covid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How do you expect teachers to deliver an already overpacked curriculum, reduce attainment and reduce the time pupils are in school by 2 1/2 hours? While all these agile learning approaches are great in theory teachers are neither confident in using this approach or have the resources, space and staffing to be able to deliver this effectively. Therefore the result will be even more gaps in learning and even more stressed staff!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Totally disagree with this proposal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	RCCT teachers are paid to deliver the curriculum just like the class teacher. There is no way the CT can teach everything within 22.5hours! The children shouldn't be expected to fit more into less time. We are in a time where a huge number of children are suffering from mental health issues & the system can't cope. This will only be increased if you add more stress to their lives. The model proposed is basically providing childcare for 2.5hours in primary & 50mins in secondary. You will still need to pay someone to look after the children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely NOT! Why on earth would anyone recommend our children spending LESS time with teachers! How about the SNP pay it from donations to their party given they've caused this by freezing council tax due to actually having any policies worth voting for (unless you are a freedom baying moron) and therefore needed something to have people vote for them!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree with approach. Damaging to school children and the education system. Teacher time is of critical importance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	You mean less learning time for students who have already been disadvantaged by Covid, come from backgrounds where education isn't valued and no help is given? This is insane and completely goes against the 'closing the attainment gap' initiative! Teachers are stretched to the limit. I and my colleagues already volunteer a huge amount of our own time to prop up initiatives and clubs/activities/learning support for students where funding has been cut and staff has already been lost. Are you trying to break teachers??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I object to this proposal. At present it is very difficult to ensure full coverage of the curriculum within the 25hrs teaching time allocated. Removing 2.5hrs would make it impossible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A reduction in pupil/ teacher time is not beneficial for pupils. They need all the time they can get with fully qualified teachers. What are these alternative learning experiences? And they would obviously not be delivered by teaching staff so are a poor substitute.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Really? School should be main place kids attend during their school years. With parents working full time school should provide as much supervision as possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'd like to know what other authorities you're bringing this into alignment with as hardly any do a 4.5 day week. Teaching time should be increased not reduced. Many children do need an alternative teaching format but for the majority the traditional method is just fine. Use the savings to have more teaching support within schools and allow teachers to teach. Children who struggle can be supported in class or out of it without disruption to the majority of pupils	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Do not agree with teacher/pupil contact time being reduced or any reduction in the school day. The above does not give enough detail on how this would actually work and what this would mean to pupils, how their day would look ??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers should be receiving more non-contact time and this should not be removed or reduced as a result of this realignment. This is a concern regarding the proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would question how the curriculum could fit into this time, every minute counts in the classroom and children would be missing valuable time in an already crammed week.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The run on sentence at the start of this statement suggests a continued need for qualified teachers to be teaching pupils. The use of 'experts' should enrich education not replace teachers. Also how can the pupil day be shortened but stay the same length? And if the 'non-teachers' are absent then who babysits the pupils (because this sounds like babysitting). To me, this sounds like trying to get school staff to provide free childcare/work unpaid overtime.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils benefit hugely from the teaching of specialist teachers during RCCT time. I do not agree with getting rid of this. What are the 'alternative learning experiences' and who is responsible for the children during these times? As a parent and a teacher, I am extremely worried about these proposals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How does reducing contact time save money, if salaries are paid regardless of teaching hours. Who would lead this alternative learning? What form would this take? Would parents see any benefit of this. Why do we need to reduce teaching contact time to such a low level when pupils are in approximately 6 hrs for 4 days and 3 on Friday. Shouldn't we be increasing learning time in particular as we have lost so much since COVID.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Students need more contact time or direct teaching time with teachers, not less. Aren't we recovering from a pandemic where two academic years of learning were severely disrupted. More, not less time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I cannot conceive how we can deliver high quality educational experiences for all with less class time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What kind of alternative experience and how will that impact on the learning of young people in the long run?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers' non contact time must be preserved and ring fenced. And teachers should be focused on just that: teaching. Increasing the number of teachers and reducing class sizes with appropriate levels of SEN support when needed may prove to yield better attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	School staff need more time to be able to support the increasing numbers of neurodiverse children that are being main streamed. All childrens education is suffering due to lack of support! Safety needs to be a priority	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is unclear what the reduction in teacher contact time will be filled with if the school day remains the same length.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So cutting qualified professional teaching time are replacing it with what? Our children's education is essentially being reduced to child care. I don't think this is good enough for our children. Absolutely shocking suggestion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Although the current West Lothian school week is somewhat unusual, it works for our situation, and I do not understand the need to change this. Removing teacher contact time seems to be moving in the wrong direction!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, this is a poor way to save money. By spending less time with our children in education what is the end goal with this saving? We constantly go on about having to hire skilled workers from other countries. Why not keep the teaching day as is, or even better increase teaching time so that our children at least have a fighting chance in employment circles when they leave school. This is an extremely ill thought out plan with no discernible gain for children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't agree with reduced contact time with teacher, also don't understand how this generates savings	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Primary Teachers already have an unmanageably crowded curriculum. Less pupil - teacher contact will only exacerbate this issue. At the moment the curriculum can only just be taught with children receiving 22.5 hrs teaching time, reducing this will make it impossible to cover the aspects of the curriculum children are expected to cover.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't really understand this idea to be honest. 22.5 hours a week contact time leaves teachers around 12.5 hours for the planning assessment parents night etc that they are contracted to cover. Most teachers seem to work around a 50 hour week so I don't understand how this will increase the attainment of the children in primary school if the teacher that knows them best is taken away from more often - would the day start earlier and finish earlier? Or a flexible start for different classes - i dont understand how you reduce the week by 50 minutes in a secondary school but have the same times for the start and finish unless non-teaching staff will appear to cover learning and classes. Teaching in primary also seems to rely on a huge amount of good will - these ideas seem likely to remove any good will from the teaching point of view	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Primary school teacher/ pupil contact is already too low due to low teacher vrs pupil ratio. The prospect that alternative learning experiences could substitute this is a fantasy	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is an awful proposal. When attainment is key we need more teachers in the class not less. school day should remain the same as now. Who would take children for the 2.5 hours? Volunteers? Parents? college students? This is totally unacceptable as a parent or as professional.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If this change was to go ahead, it would only add excess pressure to teachers to be able to fit all of the curriculum into the school day with less time. Additionally, this adds extra job insecurity stresses to those on temporary contracts that this will result in job losses due to lack of available funds in schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The kids have missed out on so much learning through covid school closure periods. Cutting teaching time with pupil's would not set the children up for success.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing pupils contact time with a qualified professional will have a direct impact on attainment. These hours of the week are spent covering valuable aspects of the curriculum and replacing this with what will essentially be childcare is completely unacceptable, particularly against the current social and economic backdrop. Our pupils deserve to be taught the by a qualified teacher for the entire time they are in school. This will; only create bigger inequalities across the country if not all pupils have access to the same quality of education. How can WLC think this is good enough for its young people? Not only that, but if these subject areas are not being taught in the 2.5 hours a week, when do you expect teachers to cover these elements of the curriculum? Attainment and staff morale is poor and this will only make things worse. You are failing our pupils and insulting teaching staff by choosing to disregard the importance of the work they do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	When children are entitled to 25 hrs of education a week then how are they getting this if they only have 22.5 hrs with their teacher? After Covid, pupils are still struggling to catch up - this will last for a few years more so cutting teaching time is not the way to go.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This reduction means less jobs for teachers joining/already in the profession. A reduction also means that teachers will have to deliver the curriculum, which is already crammed, into even fewer hours, whilst still trying to raise attainment. I can't see how this would be good for our young people. There appears to be no clear idea what children would do for this reduced time if school day times are not changing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, not happy with losing teacher contact time. Not sure what changes are really being proposed here though.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This looks like a substantial saving brought about by manipulating / cutting a few minutes from the length of the school week. If this is about shedding teacher numbers, then I would not be in favour of this. Scot Gov have trumpeted for years that education is their priority; that they will seek to lower class sizes and increase teacher numbers. However, the opposite has been the reality. Any measure which will cut teacher numbers should be avoided. We all know that fewer teachers will damage pupil education and teacher well-being. More staff is what's needed - not fewer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children need more education, not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children need more education, not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, this is a terrible idea. That the council is proposing to find these cuts on the backs of children is a disgrace.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers and children are already raising with time to cover core subjects within the curriculum. The less able children will be left behind more with the pace, as it is happening now.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I believe an overall reduction of 2.5 hours per week in pupil teacher contact time is not an option given the push across the country to raise attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will mean the loss of further job opportunities for teachers, and a significant impact on the curriculum for the young people in West Lothian, particularly in primary schools. The proposal is the cut the pupil week to 22.5hrs in primary schools to align with the current maximum contact time for a class teacher. The current pupil week is 25hrs. Currently the 2.5hrs between a class teacher's maximum contact time and the 25hr pupil week is 'covered' by another GTCS registered teacher, providing high quality teaching and learning experiences for the young people. Any move to remove these high quality experiences with a GTCS teacher are unacceptable. This will have a significant impact on workload – requiring class teachers to 'squeeze' even more into their weekly timetable whilst still attempting to raise attainment – but also significantly reduce those high quality experiences with staff other than the main class teacher across the week.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Currently the 2.5hrs between a class teacher's maximum contact time and the 25hr pupil week is 'covered' by another GTCS registered teacher, providing high quality teaching and learning experiences for the young people. Any move to remove these high quality experiences with a GTCS teacher are unacceptable. This will have a significant impact on workload – requiring class teachers to 'squeeze' even more into their weekly timetable whilst still attempting to raise attainment – but also significantly reduce those high quality experiences with staff other than the main class teacher across the week. Whilst I fully acknowledge the need for West Lothian Council to make efficiency savings, I do not feel that the proposed cuts to Education will be of any benefit to the children and young people of West Lothian, to teachers in our schools, or to the support staff who work tirelessly every day for the benefit of schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	teacher and pupil contact time is imperative to education, pupil understanding of numeracy and literacy. I think this should be a priority to reduce to an absolute minimum	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Currently the 2.5hrs between a class teacher's maximum contact time and the 25hr pupil week is 'covered' by another GTCS registered teacher, providing high quality teaching and learning experiences for the young people. Any move to remove these high quality experiences with a GTCS teacher are unacceptable. This will have a significant impact on workload – requiring class teachers to squeeze even more into their weekly timetable whilst still attempting to raise attainment – but also significantly reduce those high quality experiences with staff other than the main class teacher across the week.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely not, I would prefer my child to be taught by qualified professionals, ie, teachers, not babysat / provided with 'alternative learning opportunities'. After school clubs and other activities can provide these, but school should focus on learning provided by skilled professionals. The impact of covid has been devastating enough so to even consider reducing teaching time now is just ridiculous!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is just insane! Who would be taking the children for the extra time each week if teacher contact time is reduced? Teachers are highly skilled and trained to teach children so how would having another person look after the children improve attainment or their learning experiences? This has clearly not been thought through properly and implementing something like this would be catastrophic for any local government!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The proposal to reduce primary pupil/teacher contact time after such significant disruption to schooling during the pandemic seems extremely shortsighted. As a mother of two primary school children, I would argue that we should be increasing this time rather than cutting it. School pupils have missed out on so much teacher time over the past two years, we run the risk of causing real harm to their development if this is redicuanu further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds an awful lot like you propose already underpaid pupil support workers to take charge while teachers have non contact time. Not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who will provide the 2.5 hours for pupils if not a teaching member of staff? Interesting that the biggest cuts mentioned to the this point in the consultation are both hitting education? tTis would another another poor decision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So how would primary children be kept occupied for the remaining 2.5hrs each week? Again, how can you possibly ask for comments when there are no details. These changes could have HUGE impacts and they are being covered up by jargon and management speak! I would say NO in theory to any cuts in the Education sector. We need to invest more in the future generation, including parenting classes to help parent support their children and their education more (or even just to support them, without the more).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would organise these learning experiences? Currently they are with a gtc teacher for the additional 2 and half hours and part of curriculum is covered by them . How is a class teacher supposed to fit xn additional 2 and a half hours teaching into a reduced time , when expectations are already so high .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Ridiculous..... so you would save money, but more family needs more childcare costs.???? This risks part time workers, PSWs jobs. Kids are unruly and hard to control, esp those who are in mainstream and shouldn't be. I'm sick of hearing about teachers suffering verbal and physical abuse, accusations of things. You should do more, not less for your residents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds like a great idea if teachers are only contracted for 22.5 hrs contact time but how will this not impact the length of the day? Will children sit for 2.5 hrs of the week on their own fighting over the few devices in school or would they return home to ignore the tasks issued on Seesaw and Teams? Although WL staff are adopting an agile approach, not all families are! This would be a learning loss for those who are probably already struggling with engagement. It would also put extra stress on families as they try to engage their children (lessons learned over covid lockdown- not all will engage, in areas with deprivation, most will disengage!) Widening the attainment gap! Many are struggling with inflation right now. With such a poor economic state, this is hardly the time to be asking parents to reduce their working hours or pay extra for child care to accommodate a 2.4hr teacher contact reduction. Currently the extra 2.5 hrs learning is covered by a qualified teacher providing quality education, can this really be replicated by an agile approach? If so, why have schools open as long as 22.5hrs?! Also, please consider previous argument about staffing shortages and learner support needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree to changes being made for school especially asking for more on line learning there are already pupils unable to read and right due to the covid pandemic. Personally I would prefer my child to do online learning full time which would eradicate the bullying my child suffers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I prefer to focus on the amount of knowledge that children obtain during school day beside give them all possible activities to increase their performance and know more about life.I hope teachers take more care about children that English Language is not their first language. Also give parents all resources to help their children to practice more in education and skills.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Less teacher contact is a disaster in my opinion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The curriculum is so full at the moment that there is not enough time currently to fit everything in that ensures continued attainment levels. Reducing the time children have access to core learning skills and providing alternative learning experiences may reduce overall attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So the cuts to Education are adding up to 7.4 million direct cuts and a further cut of £890,000 of free school meals and uniforms ??? Teachers teach students !! remove teachers from teaching what are you then providing? What do you think will happen to the attainment? Are you expecting the teachers who are WORKING FOR AT LEAST 40HRS PER WEEK to create suitable tasks for the non contact time? The Secondary School timelimes are already tight and the schools are already stealing from Peter to pay Paul in terms of meeting the core legislative requirements of education. And you are wanting to make this worse by putting students in the hands of low paid carers instead? (How else will you save money!!)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Is there a relationship between teacher/pupil contact time and improved attainment levels. If yes as is implied, will reducing this contact time have a detrimental effect on pupil attainment levels? If yes, this must be taken into account when attempting to save money. Children's education should not be put at risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	i absolutely disagree with this. Already our childrens education suffers due to cuts aready made, which have resulted in a lack of continuity of teachers for our children. Perhaps some savings could be made, but i disagree with this as a suitable way forward. If no time is lost in the length of the school day, and teaching contact time is lost, this can only mean a reduction in the quality of education our children receive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a significant change which could be complex to deliver and hard to sell to parents. Consideration is also needed of the impact this could have on attainment and achievement of those in quintile 1. It is however, an opportunity to think creatively and consider models which could benefit pupils, but have never been explored before.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Please do not reduce teacher contact time??? This is our childrens education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Covering the BGE curriculum without GTCS registered teachers for the whole allocated school time would be impossible as it is already challenging to fit it into the current allocated time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would only have a negative impact on the learners as it diminishes the role of the teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will only have a negative impact on the learners and their future learning experiences. Attainment would decrease without reduced contact time. It diminishes the importance of education and the role of a qualified teacher. Not only is the curriculum already incredibly full, but it would also be impossible to provide a BGE curriculum without GTCS-qualified teachers for the whole allocated school time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is completely unacceptable and will inevitably reduce attainment as learners are spending less time with GTCS qualified teachers. Alternative learning experiences will not meet the curriculum needs and teachers will be forced to cram an ever increasing timetable into even less hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will only have a negative impact on the learners and their future learning experiences. It diminishes the importance and essential role that registered teachers play in the lives of children. Not only is the curriculum already incredibly full, it would be impossible to provide a BGE curriculum without GTCS qualified teachers for the whole allocated school time. Attainment would decrease as a result of reduced teaching time with qualified staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will only have a negative impact on the learners and their future learning experiences. Attainment would decrease as a result of reduced teaching time with a qualified teacher. It diminishes the importance of education and the role of a qualified teacher. Not only is the curriculum already incredibly full, it would be impossible to provide a BGE curriculum without GTCS qualified teachers for the whole allocated school time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This cannot be done. Children will not be able to achieve the same levels of attainment while spending less time with a GTCS qualified teacher. It reduces the importance of education and undermines the importance of teaches. The curriculum is already too full to cover in the time we have, reducing this further would mean children are missing out on opportunities to develop their skills and talent.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will only have a negative impact on the learners and their future learning experiences. It diminishes the importance of education and the role of the class teacher, not only is the curriculum incredibly full it would be impossible to provide a BGE curriculum without GTCS qualified teachers for the full school time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Similarly, the burden/pressure this places on teachers to get through the core curriculum in a reduced timeline - and using more technology as per the last suggestion - will without exception result in a further exodus of qualified professional leaving, taking all of their knowledge and skills, although that would generate some financial savings I suppose. This move to a 'realigned' school day cannot be the financial solution when plans in England are to extend the school day to support learning. How can Scotland expect to compete in the global market if our learners come to school and only experience play-based learning until P3, then cram in the core curriculum from P4 onwards by exhausted and inexperienced teachers followed by afternoons of 'alternative learning' - how does this align with the coming changes to CfE from the Scottish Govt?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I cannot begin to express my concerns at this proposal. To reduce teacher/pupil contact when this core relationship is the very thing that has supported our learners through some of the most difficult and traumatising experiences many will ever have seems perverse to me. The negative impact on the young people cannot be overstated, for many of whom, the safety felt in the teacher/pupil relationship is their first experience of being 'safe' - to remove this and replace it with 'alternative learning experiences' seems counterintuitive to me.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any reduction in teacher contact time would have a serious detrimental effect on young people. The impacts would also be slow to materialise, but the harms would be long term for those young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No money should be cut from school budgets. More money should be allowed to schools and less to bonuses for higher management within the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure how this saving is being calculated here and it feels rather hopeful. I'm against reduced teacher/pupil time and I don't even have a child, so imagine this will be a negative change for others too	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	After covid when children need all the school time they can get this proposal seems really strange.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely not. Agile learning is not about reducing teaching time. It is about meeting needs and that requires staffing and resources. Unless you are keen to pay for more pupils to be on bespoke programmes of learning, I'd suggest you stop twisting words and withdrawing resources. It will cost more in the long run.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children will also be more likely to confide in their teachers when they spend more time with them, as they are able to bond more and build their trust. If the teacher pupil contact is reduced, children may not seek the help and advice of teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I have personally attended a large high school with 32 pupils per teacher as well as a smaller high school with 18 pupils per teacher. I did far better in the smaller school where the teacher pupil contact would have been far higher than larger school. I struggled in the larger school and was just a number, with teachers not knowing each individual pupil. After transferring to the smaller school my grades increased as well as my confidence levels, and my relationship with my teachers was far more beneficial. I did not feel scared to speak to them when I was struggling, and they knew each individual students' strengths and weaknesses. They were able to offer far more constructive feedback regarding my progress at school. I also started to enjoy going to school. I was never bullied or excluded, in either school, but the smaller school was much more beneficial and enjoyable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	teacher/pupil contact is important, and I don't believe it should be reduced. Children left to their own devices can create more problems. They children need to be monitored and moulded into decent upstanding citizens. This requires role models like teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Many children may have learning disabilities or just struggle with certain areas of the curriculum. If teachers are not with children as much throughout the day, it will be harder to pick up on which kids are struggling or even which kids are not being treated properly at home. Less exposure to children may lead to their struggles going unnoticed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would be educate the children when they were not with a qualified teacher? This will surely reduce provision of a broad curriculum and add to the workload of class teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No need to restructure the school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	why ? half days on a friday are already a barrier to parents working and supporting their families. I was lucky enough to put my child in private education and the main reason for this was that i could take them to school for 8am and pick them up at 17.30. They got a solid mix of subjects from maths and English to sports and recreational, Duke of Edinburgh etc. I would not get this in a school in west lothian. It gave them a good grounding and also made me a better parent as i could work and provide for them too.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I firmly disagree with this proposal both as a teacher and a parent. The time spent with a teacher is a highly rich educational time in which children learn and flourish. Reducing this time by 2.5 hours a week will negatively impact their education and all in the effort of saving money. It is not for the children's best interests. Spending the 2.5 hours through 'alternative learning experiences' will never replace the high quality learning experiences provided by a teacher. Alternatively, teacher's workload needs to be investigated as that is the root cause of teachers requiring time out of class to plan and prepare so much. Reduce workload and let teachers focus solely on their pupils and that way a teacher can provide a strong education for all in the original 25hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Interested to see how this would work and how it will impact on the attainment of the children without increasing the workload of the staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't agree with this move at all. The amount of time that kids have in school is already had a minimum, along with their teacher contact time. This should definitely not go ahead	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I complete disagree with this. Teachers are already struggling to teach the curriculum. Having another teacher teach certain subjects during NCCT is a huge help to ensure they have a breadth of experiences. The children need qualified teaching staff to teach them. The experiences will not be beneficial to the children if they are not taught by a teacher. This should not go ahead. Again, go into a school to see what it is like before making this decision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Further cuts to an already struggling and under performing education department are indefensible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	For primary schools this would mean pupils are denied access to subject specialists re PE, music, etc while increasing the administrative/planning burden on teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How can we reduce class contact time but still maintain the education- what subject goes in Secondary? That is the equivalent to a period a week - 39 over the school year. If the pupils stay in school the same amount of time they still need to be supervised...who will do this and therefore how does it save money? If we were to increase lunches etc there will be a knock on impact in terms of behaviour/discipline - already an issue within a 45 minute lunch - these breaks also need supervising - by who?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	so the saving would come primarily from not providing an RCCT teaching budget. Where would the responsibility fall for providing the alternative learning experiences? Headteachers - who already work on average more hours than other local authorities? The administrative burden for this would cost significant man hours and would reduce parents confidence in the quality of the provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	To raise attainment we need to ensure our children do not lose any teaching time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What will the children do in this time difference. This will impact on teachers and their abilities to raise attainment. Teachers are struggling to maintain levels now and these will be impacted negatively if this is actioned. What are the alternative learning experiences? Who is going to manage this?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How does this fit in with the recovery agenda that we were promised post pandemic for young people who have already missed so much education? In secondary schools this would mean over 31 hours a year less teacher contact time. Again please explain how that fits in with The Council's raising attainment agenda and the concern for young people's mental health if the proposal is to remove valuable tutor time in the morning?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is absurd! We are basically offering children and young people a second-class education compared to other Councils by taking away valuable properly qualified GTCs teacher time from our primary children. We currently have 25 hours contact weekly in primary school so taking 2.5 hours a week over 38 weeks of teaching time reduces the teaching time for primary children by 95 hours a year. How does this align with The Council's supposed number one priority of raising attainment?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children should have the benefit of qualified Teachers - standards that should be a prerequisite for the time spent in school - this will overload the requirements of the rest of the week.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children are legally entitled to 25 hrs of education a week. Teachers go through a tough training and registration process in order to be able to do this. The idea of alternate learning experiences sounds nice on paper but how would this work in reality? Would children have any choice? Would the staff be trained in managing children with additional support needs? How would the communication work between teachers and 'other' staff? This sounds like a huge administrative burden, putting vulnerable children in unfamiliar situations and a complete erosion of their educational entitlement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Maybe try speaking with parents and see what they think in regards to this change how can you reduce the school week by 50 minutes yet not change the start/finish times you make no sense at all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who is working the pupils during the 50min if not teachers? Getting an external partner in for a class may be possible but 40 weeks for a full school population doesn't sound feasible. What exactly are the plans for this session and how are you saving teaching contact if these classes still need supervision?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Already they are reducing teaching time that is very much needed for students that is affective teaching. Reducing this further will only put our students at a more disadvantage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The want to improve school attainment is teh issue. In order for school to meet these positive records they aren't focusing on helping students rather moving them on.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely not....	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will have a significant impact on workload – requiring class teachers to ‘squeeze’ even more into their weekly timetable whilst still attempting to raise attainment – but also significantly reduce those high quality experiences with staff other than the main class teacher across the week. Taking away a GTCS registered teacher is unacceptable - we send children to primary to learn - not to be babysat by someone which is what will happen if they are not being 'covered' by another GTCS registered teacher who has the ability to deliver the same standard of education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is of major concern to me as a teacher and as a parent. I am happy that my child has the input of a qualified teacher during the time that their class teacher is on "non-contact" time and I would be concerned that they were then missing vital teaching and learning and skills development time. The added pressure this will bring to teachers trying to "cram" the same amount of work into a shorter time period will be significant and at a time when teacher burn-out is high and staff morale is very very low.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who is going to provide that additional time in school for our young people? I would be concerned that children are not getting access to education from qualified teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The currency of education is positive results and raising attainment. These proposals will have a detrimental effect on both - money maybe saved but at the cost of pupil attainment. It's not worth it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The council push continually for improvements to attainment and then suggest reducing the amount of teaching time. It makes no sense. We're constantly expected to provide more within less time and with less resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	kids education is very important they need more education time not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds very vague and even deliberately unclear. How are WLC making savings when there is no reduction to teacher time? How do you shave off a secondary lesson (50 minutes) without reducing contact time or changing start/ finish times?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	how do teachers deliver N5/H and AH courses with SQA time guidelines if teaching time is reduced?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I disagree with this. Children need more teacher contact time not less. 'alternative learning experiences' reads like a buzzword for sticking them in front of a tv/computer/tablet.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any reduction in pupil/teacher time is patently an absurd idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is utterly preposterous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils have 2.5 hours of quality teaching provided by trained and skilled class teachers that they would not receive. This will deeply hinder their educational progression and put even more unnecessary stress on teachers to deliver more in less time given. This would be awful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Surely this makes no sense??? Children should be learning whilst at school these hours should be a minimum and increased rather than decrease.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't think reducing the time kids have with their teachers is the answer. They have already been majorly disrupted by Covid lockdowns. I think moving to a 4 day week and compressing their time into those days would be better. Shut the school on a Friday and save on energy bills. Or alternatively have the kids learn remotely on Fridays with set tasks. I appreciate this isn't going to appeal to everyone but we all coped during complete lockdown. Some employers are moving to a 4 day week, it's adopted elsewhere around the world, I think it's a positive change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again...this is a saving for the council at the cost of the education of our young people. Unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A reduction of teacher/pupil contact time does not feel like a good idea. Reduce the number of hours our primary school pupils are taught by a qualified teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't see how this would be beneficial to any student.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupil / teacher contact time SHOULD NOT be reduced. How do you propose children will learn if there is no teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I also don't think secondary school times should be reduced. There is already time lost to moving about classes. Our young people should be getting everything from us that they can and there should be not cuts to education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The kids find it hard enough to learn in the time they get in school just now. Kids should stay at school until they are 18 to allow them to learn more life skills	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	My daughter is autistic. A one size fits all approach is not suitable. I don't believe your idea would suit children with ASN	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How do you propose the children are supervised if the teacher contact time is reduced? What/whom would they be with during this time? What would be the expectation of class teachers during this time instead of class contact time?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Fair enough the school day is the same length but cutting out teacher/pupil time will only damage the child's development as in my child's school they are stretched thin as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If less teacher contact meant more screen time, I have concerns and objections. Building safe, healthy relationships should be a strong part of community that school supports and this needs individuals to be valued.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Summertime definitely a no bit winter time a definite yes	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This indent clear to me, you wish to keep the children in for the same time but teach them less! If a teacher was to have less teaching time what do the children learn? So the children and our next generation simply won't be as clever if they have no guidance and tuition.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers are qualified professionals, with undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications. Their professional skills and abilities should not be undermined. As a secondary school teacher, I fail to see how the school day could remain the same length, but the week be reduced by 50 minutes. If the Council wants to shorten the school week, then so be it, but failing to adjust the length of the school day suggests the Council is unwilling/unable to admit to parents/third parties that this is what is happening.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't understand how this would save money. Kids need to learn. They've been messed around with enough over the past few years. They need stability now more than ever.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Ridiculous idea.. with covid/ lockdown the kids have lost out on vital interaction time.. if anything they need more not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What would be the saving if the teacher contact time was increased to at least 27 hours? Surely the current school week is too short and we need to be investing in our children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It would also be a major concern that a reduction in teacher contact time would mean a reduction in pupil contact time with GTC(S) registered teachers. Buying in meaningful external provision would also cost money. You will not continue to Raise Attainment by reducing the amount of hours pupils spend with GTC(S) registered teachers. Indeed, it would be interesting to analyse the impact of this Agile Curriculum longer term (not in a few months) on attainment in the key priority areas. More teaching staff and additional support staff are actually needed in schools, not the opposite. Failure to invest in these areas risks not providing young people with education they need to improve their life opportunities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The Secondary School week in West Lothian in terms of pupil class time is already in line with other Local Authorities. Indeed, North Lanarkshire Council recently moved to something more akin to the West Lothian model.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would not support this. School teaching time is critical for our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will have a significant impact on workload. It will also have a direct impact on what can be taught during school hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	there is a danger here to parents who depend on after school care for their children due to working to provide for their families	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Does this have a direct impact on teacher numbers. generally less teaching seems like a bad idea and 22.5 hours seems relatively low compared with world leading economies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	homework should not replace less school time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you were to ask my 3 kids about that statement, they'd roll their eyes and laugh.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I cannot disagree more with your opening statement "West Lothian has developed an agile learning culture and approach and delivered improved school attainment results and improved learning experiences for pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Outrageous suggestion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unbelieve suggestion. So once again, you plan to reduce teacher/pupil contact time when the exact opposite is required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Is it worth reducing the quality of the school possibly damaging the future of our children for 2mln?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is rubbish. Whilst at school they should be getting taught lessons s if not why have them in school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Ridiculous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Here's an old fashioned idea for you, School 9am to 3:30pm every day so parents don't have to work less to accommodate their kids half days on Fridays.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing educational time with teacher input is a huge mistake. Again, this will widen the achievement gap and the council will be directly responsible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I wouldn't like teaching time reduced. But do agree there should be Scottish wide approach to number of teaching hours and holidays	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children are entitled to a broad general education. This should be provided registered teachers. Will the 2.5 hours be babysitting/child care rather than education?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How does less time with a teacher in the same hours of school help improve our children's learning? Education attainment is low already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am dubious about what this statement means and would like it to be better exemplified. As it's stands to be read. I disagree with children being in school with less supporting staff or teachers or qualified appropriate supervision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If there is less teacher student contact time then this should be reflected in the schools and pupils should not be required to be present. You could reduce overheads by reducing the time children need to spend in school therefor allowing opportunities for home learning or blended learning therefor at parents choice. Some children would be better off in school where as a shorter day or week may allow some children to partake in extra curriculum activities such as attending specialist classes or activities such as sports clubs for example. I don't believe in reducing staff otherwise children will be left wayward in the schools without adequate or qualified or sufficient supervision or safety	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No - our children are at school to learn and we should be investing in their future, not cutting back.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children already don't get enough class time due to time wasters (those that clearly don't want to learn)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why would you be considering reducing school days when we already gave an issue with lack of standard of reading and writing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am opposed to teachers spend less time with pupils, more work should be done designing processes and procedures to reduce the burden of paper work teachers have to complete.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is not clear how this additional time will be used by the child. This is extremely concerning, as at present the children are supported during these extra hours through PE, music or languages, activities critical to their development. I can not see the benefit to the child by this cost saving and find it very alarming to be communicated without any context on these activities or how you suggest their time will be used. As a parent I wouldn't be supportive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will be detrimental to children and school environment and already so much learning missed due to covid this would cause further damage to future learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am extremely concerned about how this will impact on all aspects of school from attainment to roles within schools. The roles within schools are already so stretched there is no space for additional remits. If pupil support staff are asked to cover classes this will have a huge detrimental effect on these members of staff who are not paid or trained to do so. Why should our children have 2.5 hours of schooling where they are not provided with what they deserve. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN ANY WAY.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As a member of school staff and as a parents of pupils in WL schools I am completely against this proposal. I do not understand how aligning these would give the children continuity? It has not been made clear who or what would be provided during this time?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am COMPLETELY AGAINST my child being in school and not being provided with learning experiences from a fully qualified teacher. Our children DESERVE BETTER than this and I am very concerned that this is a slippery slope to ruining our Scottish Education Service. When our children are in SCHOOL they should be experiences the best possible care and opportunities from a TEACHER.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Currently the extra time is covered by a member of the school teaching staff known by the pupils, such as a music teacher, PE teacher or RCCT teacher. Why would taking this time away from pupils be beneficial to them?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Cutting the school day will have a detrimental affect on the education of children in Scotland. It will also apply even more pressure on teachers and schools, increasing workload of teachers who will have 2.5 hours of curriculum to fit into an already packed day. The loss of pupil support workers will have a detrimental affect on children, particularly those who need supported in their learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I absolutely disagree with this. It puts at risk the educational needs of a whole generation of children. The school day is not just about the length of time that children are in school but the quality of what is taught during that day and by people who are appropriately qualified to do so, ensuring that children grow up to reach their potential. It is not about having children babysat for a specific length of time per day so that parents can work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I have concerns over this and how it would effect my child's attainment at primary level and therefore within future education settings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Whatever the reason, I cannot understand why anybody would think childrens learning will not be hugely impacted by removing teachers, even only for some of the day. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As stated above 'West Lothian has developed an agile learning culture and approach and delivered improved school attainment results and improved learning experiences for pupils', why on earth would you think less time in class would be of any benefit to our children?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher- pupil time of 22.5h/ week is borderline low. Lowering the other remaining 2.5h and subsidies with non teaching time it would affect already stretched education level and make it below acceptable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am concerned about the 'alternative learning experiences' being suggested. Would this be paying outside agencies to complete tasks? How would this ensure appropriate learning experiences are covered when being delivered by staff who are not trained? Also this would mean a reduction in the opportunity for pupils to have PE and Music delivered by staff who are highly skilled in this area. I am concerned not only about safety but for the health and wellbeing of our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to ensuring an appropriately qualified workforce to provide appropriate learning experiences, meeting the needs of all learners
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So what exactly would the kids be doing in these 2.5hrs? It seems they are unaccounted for at the minute and the wording used is extremely (and deliberately) vague. Would they lose out of PE or Music time with a qualified teacher? This is completely unacceptable if so. I would oppose these changes until it can be adequately explained what the changes actually look like.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	its hard enough for working parents - if you shorten the school day you are just making it harder	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would parents have to pay / take time off work to facilitate the alternative learning experiences?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with the reduction of teacher/pupil contact time. I think it would have serious implications especially for SLT to plan for and provide an alternative learning experience for our children for the remainder of the time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The Management of non contact time is very challenging for senior leaders to deliver consistently for a whole staff team due to staff absence, Covid pandemic etc and any increase in non contact time I think would be a significant work load issue for senior leaders. I thought that all children were required to have a GTCS registered teacher so would the alternative learning experiences be delivered by teachers? One positive of having non contact time for all staff at the same time consistently would be a valuable opportunity for staff to liaise and work together on school improvement planning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure about reducing school hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduce the school day by 50 mins...that's a whole lesson being cut...how can the school day start and finish at the same time with 50 mins cut?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I strongly disagree with this proposal. The pupils already don't take Fridays seriously as it is 'just a half day'. There needs to be as much teacher / pupil contact time as possible if we are to deliver a successful education system. The current system is already giving results that fall well below the standard in other countries e.g. Northern Ireland and this propose would be detrimental to both primary and secondary school pupils. Under no circumstances should this be implemented.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not needed and not going to be beneficial to children. Children need the teachers for support and they definitely need the structure and discipline that comes with having a teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I feel it is incredibly important that children have access to specialist education, in areas such as music and PE from qualified teachers. This is an essential part of their education and should not be cut to meet budget requirements.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How can you reduce this contact time, when a vast majority of the children will not come out with formal qualifications. You need to provide more time to the teachers to support the pupils who are wanting to spend time in school to learn without distractions but also enforce the no bullying policy within the school. Pupils require more support. There should also be a better system in place for consequences and bad behavior instead of having a child not complete a punishment because they don't want to and they don't have to then get off with it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will put additional pressure on parents to support their children. I don't agree with it at all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	"Teacher contact time is currently 22.5 hours per week and there is an opportunity to re-align the primary school day to match this time." - OH! You mean abdicate responsibility to parents who are already struggling to find/afford childcare?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The removal of this funding would have a severe detrimental impact on the children. It is currently very challenging to ensure the curriculum is delivered within the current school day, removal of funding for staff, resources etc. would only be disastrous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely disagree with this. The curriculum is completely crowded already. The only way this would be of any benefit to pupils is if the time was used to be taught specialised subjects BY QUALIFIED, GTCS REGISTERED TEACHERS, thus removing some subjects from class teachers. Babysitting by pupil support staff, coaches, or other non-qualified teachers is inadequate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More reliance on support staff instead of qualified teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is surprising to see that the valuable interaction time between student and teacher is proposed to be reduced with no explanation of the "Alternative Learning Experience." As a parent, my idea is not to leave my child anywhere, for a fixed period of time. From school, I expect a rich, meaningful human interaction that would help my children to grow and flourish. Savings should not be made at the cost of the future of our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolute madness! It's an erosion of the teaching profession, whereby teachers must adhere to GTC standards and you intend to bypass this to save money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	For shame! Cutting two and a half hours from children's education, each week, is a dereliction of your duty to provide a decent education for the children of West Lothian and an attack on their future!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	And when these providers of alternative learning experiences don't turn up or call in sick, teachers will be expected to cover? How would that time be paid back. The whole thing sounds like it was come up with on the back of a stamp because you'd like to remove PE, Music and Art specialists from Primary Schools. And when the requirement to bring in teacher class contact time down to 21 hours, what then?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I suggest you look at your education proposals again but perhaps have some educational professionals in the meetings who can advise you how best to move forward - increase funding in Education, the children deserve investment not cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is an outrageous suggestion. How can we seriously expect the children of West Lothian to benefit from having LESS time with teachers?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing pupil/teacher time will be detrimental to the pupils I believe. In a world where technology now rules, I believe it is vitally important to maximise teacher/pupil contact and not reduce it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am not sure how this would impact primary school. I thought legally children must have 25 hours per week of quality education. This would also mean a reduction in teaching and support staff which would seriously impact on morale in school. MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	After the devastation of covid it is hard to see how cutting the school day will aid recovery.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I cannot understand how a reduction in teacher/pupil contact time can improve the education of pupils. The proposal is to reduce contact time but keep the same length of day for pupils, how will the gap be filled and who will provide the supervision for that? Teacher use their non contact time to prepare future lessons etc and this should not be removed as teachers already work far more hours than they are contracted to do. This is not a good proposal and should not happen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There should be NO REDUCTION in teacher/pupil contact time. This has a terrible impact on teachers and pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Highest quality learning, teaching and assessment is what provides the greatest added value to our young people in coming to school. Reducing pupil/ teacher contact time runs the risk of seriously compromises the quality of learning, teaching and assessment on offer to our young people. To do so would fundamentally be wrong!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This teacher time on direct teaching stat is meaningless in the context of the up to date web based learning tools that are available to eager learners. Savings on such should be easily achievable and lead to significant reductions in absence and supply teaching expense.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Concern about what alternative learning offered rather than teacher/pupil time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Actually working with the teacher is better	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I fail to understand how a reduction in teacher/ student contact time, along with the proposed reduction in support staff is feasible. What does "alternative learning experiences" even mean? Children already have limited learning time in class and reducing actual time with their teacher will only cause further gaps in their education, will weakening teacher/student relations and will ultimately jeopardise the "improved school attainment results" you have claimed to achieve .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Current individual teacher - pupil contact time is 22.5 hours however pupils are taught by RCCT teachers the remainder of their school day. The suggested drop in teaching time will impact pupils who have already had education disrupted due to lockdowns and home learning. It is good to offer a range of activities for learners however we should not be putting their education and so futures at risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Where will the time to teach be if it's getting reduced again? The curriculum has to be fast-paced to fit everything in.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This proposal needs to be explained in much greater detail. The impact on raising the attainment gap by reducing teacher-pupil contact time makes no sense at all! What are the council's proposals for the children in the 2.5hours that they are in school with no teacher contact? Bearing in mind the proposal to reduce the number of support and administrative staff in schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I cannot see how this could possibly benefit pupils. Although the main class teacher contact time is 22.5 hours the further 2.5 hours are still covered by a qualified teacher who is teaching to the curriculum. Under this proposal the time to teach the curriculum would be reduced and children would miss out on key areas of the curriculum such as music, art and the sciences. Reducing the class day is reducing the opportunity to provide high quality teaching and learning for the curriculum which again will impact on the educational experiences of a generation that have already been greatly affected by the Covid pandemic. It would also result in the loss of quality staff who are dedicated to their profession and an asset to education provision in West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I disagree with the proposal to reduce teacher pupil contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Surely this has to be a joke?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	You can't restrict learning to save money. If anything we need to be giving young people more teacher time, more structured learning and more opportunity. If we don't Scotland will be left behind.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More information required. Not in favour of reduced time with class teachers. Effects on behaviour in class would be detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How is less teaching time good for the children? Does this mean parents will need to fund tutors to ensure they are at the right level.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher engagement with pupils is essential to effective learning in early years schooling. This should not be reduced further without impacting on attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	And you think that there is scope to reduce the schooling week further? Potentially, you will either force out good staff because you are reducing their wages and / or those that are left simply can't cope with the extra burden. Proceed with great caution please and make sure that the Teachers agree with you.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Education cannot be restricted by financial constraints when it involves reduced classroom teaching.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Face to face teaching is vital to engage children so disagree with this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Cutting teacher time cannot be made into a positive	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely no reduction in teacher contact time. I would prefer to increase the secondary school week to five full days.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Education in Scotland has continued to plummet when compared internationally with attainment in other countries. Reducing teacher contact time will only exacerbate the issue. Our children deserve to be taught at school by qualified, experienced teachers for the whole school day rather than watering down their education. I find this proposal wholly unacceptable - our children deserve more than this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children's education has been impacted detrimentally over the past few years due to the COVID pandemic, throughout which teacher contact time was dramatically reduced. Improved attainment results were only due to teachers providing grades rather than exams.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children need to learn things at some point, so school time is vital. Parents need to work so extra costs of child care become impossible. Cut down on bureaucracy and admin for teachers so they can spend more time teaching.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No- teacher pupilcontact time should not be decreased it should instead be increased	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teaching hours are appropriate as it is. Reductions may lead to a reduction in quality	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils need more time at school with teachers not less. Stop wasting time with pointless assemblies and teaching nonsense and spend more time on real subjects which parents actually send children to school to learn. Teachers in the main were hiding during the recent pandemic and must have saved hundreds of pounds in fuel. Give them a pay decrease and no raise till they've earned one.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any reduction in face to face teaching is not good.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Well then they will surely fight for a raise (quite rightly) as they are in a new role with more responsibility than what they are usually asked for. If this is going to outside agencies then how can we justify specialists when already we know that per hour most specialists workout more expensive than a standard class teacher. Then what happens if there is an absence of those who are responsible for the children during this time. What happens to the children at this point? The class teacher is legally contracted to this non-contact time and can therefore leave the building. Management may be in meetings, on courses etc. As things stand teachers attempt to be understanding when the non-contact teacher is absent and should (legally, although sometimes this is not always done) provided this time at another time. However, if there are specialists coming in then this causes a logistical nightmare and will make this contractual obligation more difficult and could result in there not being a member of staff to be in front of the classroom.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers already work over and above their allocated working day with no additional pay, to ensure they deliver quality lessons to their pupils. Removing their scheduled planning time would further impact the work they would need to complete in their own time. This will put additional pressure/ stress on teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher / pupil face to face time should not be reduced. Some children's learning could suffer if they have less access time with a teacher	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	cannot even believe this is in here- you have got to be joking. how will we ensure we raise attainment, protect pupils from covid gaps in learning - oh I know let's give lazy teachers more time off and at the same time force many parents to work part time- I honestly think you have all lost the plot	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would want to know what this would be before commenting in more depth. However this proposal would reduce teacher interactions with learners by 682.5 hours across primary and potentially 195 hours in secondary school, this adds up to 877.5 hours. or to put it another way, a full year of primary school. Is the council seriously proposing to take a full year of formal schooling away from our learners? It seems fanciful to think that removing contact with teachers for that length of time will have no negative impact. I strongly disagree with this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No absolutely not, this makes no sense, why would any parent/cater want their children to have less contact time with teacher. Are we forgetting that all children of primary / secondary age already lost out on 2-3 years of valuable socialising and learning due to covid; I think if anything more contact time with teachers are a must, online learning for all schools too, my sons primary school still do homework in jotters whilst other primaries already adopted the online submissions	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Education I if our children should not be skimped on and I don't agree with this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think that children should be taught in class by a qualified teacher, if left to their own devices some will not use this as they should.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think pupils need more teaching time and more teacher support as some pupils need the teacher environment to work and the structure of the school to achieve their potential	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	To ensure the continuity of high quality learning and teaching throughout this additional time, will be difficult to sustain over time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with this proposal. I think we should be increasing pupil/teacher time rather than reducing it and using 'infill' strategies, especially the increased use of technology...I believe there is already too much technology use in schools and we should be focussing more on reducing this and increasing core life-skills.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any move which involves pupils having reduced contact with GTCs registered educational professionals is unacceptable, and again needs to be looked at through the lens of real terms cuts in education budgets at a time where those budgets are already under intolerable strain.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sorry what exactly will children be doing during the time your saying no teacher contact and really are you all mad! After the last 3 years of covid disruptions you want to provide our kids with less teacher contact time! Sorry I have to ask again are you all mad????! I have never read such misguided comments, honestly in a broken education system your answer is to provide kids with less time with teachers. Can I ask have you had a look at what's actually happening in schools right now? Children at exam levels are spending their school holidays getting extra study support class time with their teachers. They are spending hours after school everyday of the week having extra support study classes with their teachers to make sure they are in a place to sit and pass exams all because they don't have enough class time in a normal school week with their teachers so who thinks it's a great idea to reduce this teacher class time even further????	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children's attainment on average is not getting significantly better particularly in poorer areas. A reduction in school day will be detrimental. Children are beginning school with significant gaps - reduction will only increase these gaps.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this proposal is appalling. Teachers are already struggling to teach an already overloaded school curriculum within the 25 allocated hours. If this contact time was further reduced then this would mean that we have to cram even more into our timetables within a shorter period of time. This proposal proves that the council is not taking children's education into account at all and is instead only solely focused on saving money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	NO, just NO. Children have suffered enough and missed out on enough during the pandemic, do not make them suffer any more. They need more teacher time not less.; Reduce the school day? Is this fair to working parents who already struggle with childcare?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There should absolutely not be a reduction in teacher/pupil contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Shortening access to qualified teachers will have a direct impact on learner attainment and achievement as it is currently challenging enough to ensure learners receive their full entitlement to a broad general education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Concerned about the possibility / proposal for secondary schools to reduce the school week by 50min & the impact on the quality of learning on pupils by having less teacher contact time. This would have a detrimental impact, especially on the children who struggle in their education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Based on the impact of the Covid Pandemic, the impact on primary school kids of lockdown and home learning, no matter what funding issues, I was expecting to see and increase in teacher/pupil contact time. Once again the proposal is vague, it says contact time will be reduced, but the length of the school days would remain the same. Details of what "alternative learning experiences" will be available needs to be detailed. I do note that so far of the 6 proposals, 3 of them affect childrens education with projected savings greater than £8m, I cannot see how this level of cuts will mean that the educational experience will remain high and not cause a significant gap in the educational curriculum unfolding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who is providing the alternative learning experiences and where? Where is the money for this coming from? Class Teacher's need access to their classrooms, school and resources. No space for all of us to be out at same time. RCCT/NCCT is also to be increasing over the next few years which you have not addressed.; The priority is to close the learning gaps and raise attainment but you are reducing teacher contact time.; Teacher loss of jobs but employing extra unqualified staff for cheaper.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to ensuring an appropriately qualified workforce to provide appropriate learning experiences, meeting the needs of all learners
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Further job loss and less preparation time for teachers should not even be considered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing the number of hours pupils have with a teacher in their class can only have a negative impact. Specialist teachers already provide valuable experiences for children with a focus on an area of the curriculum that is required to be met. The curriculum for excellence is so broad that teachers already struggle to fit everything into the time they have. Whilst with the specialist teachers the classes are able to experience a subject in depth that is often a different experience to their normal timetable. This restructure would likely lead to job losses and reduced opportunities for newly trained teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children are already behind due to covid especially in reading, writing and maths. The experiences are differentiated for children in their classes and are created through the levels of progression. If the children were to then participate in learning experiences instead how will this affect their progression. Would cutting the hours from class contact not mean progression was slower than it was.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would result in learning opportunities for PE and music being taken away from specialist teachers as this is what is covered for my RCCT. Therefore this would have to be covered in the class contact time which would affect delivery of all other curricular areas. It also means children will not benefit from specialists to deliver skill sets needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't agree with this proposal. Effectively reducing primary school teaching time but disguising it as other learning opportunities. I think on the back of covid 19 and children not being taught for almost 18 months we should be promoting more learning time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, 'agile learning culture'- what are you saying. This is unnecessary - focus on the teachers and learners. This is pointless- it simply gives someone a job to 'research the school day structure', they come up with a restructuring plan- now this is a waste of money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely not. Again failure if governments on manifesto commitments both locally and Scotland wide.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So you are going to have non teaching staff with the children for 2 and half hours per week and make us like England. Shocking agile learning only works if properly funded with qualified teaching staff. This is the worst idea I have ever heard and you seriously should be ashamed of yourselves. You are doing this to save employing teachers and cost cutting children's lives. Children need more teacher time not less and I would be raging if my children received less. In fact all children are entitled to 25 hours in primary of teacher time not 22.5 this is unlawful and would result in parents taking legal action against you. I seriously think this needs to be reconsidered and other ways of reducing budgets as children need quality learning by a teacher and not agile learning which is babysitting in disguise.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Think it is vital to have teacher pupil time and don't believe the solution is to have less time with a teacher... The school hours are hard enough for families to manage who work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who will provide the alternative learning experiences? Quality education must be taught by qualified teachers. Attainment levels will fall as children will be missing out on being provided with quality education. Specialist staff provide lessons which raise attainment, transfer learning, share curricular links. Specialist teachers provide enriching lessons that link with class teachers learning. Specialist teachers teach key skills such as creativity, higher order thinking and problem solving that can not be replaced with unqualified staffing. If class contact time is 22.5 hours and the remaining school day is not provided with lessons from qualified teachers this leaves less time for the class teacher to cover the full curriculum and we will fail in providing quality education for all. Our learners have the right to high quality education taught by qualified class teachers for the whole school day therefore I strongly disagree with the proposals in 1F in restructuring the school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would inevitably lead to less staff on very tight school estate already, the primary school impact would be large with parents having to provide additional childcare, this would have an impact on the local economy and could lead to reduced income in the future. Long term thinking and the investment in young people has to be no 1 priority	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	With the learning of children already suffering so greatly due to the pandemic, is reducing teacher contact time really the best route to go down? The only reason that 'attainment' has improved as that staff are often going well above and beyond their contractual obligations to provide the best life chances for our young people (not because of your 'agile learning culture'). Have you even bothered to consult teaching staff over these suggestions? Or just ran roughshod and already made up your mind (which seems likely as these proposals were tabled last year, denied that they were being seriously considered, and have somehow magically re-appeared).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why are we reducing school hours/days? Our kids have missed so much schooling over the last few years, and it's very apparent. Totally disagree with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	High quality teaching experiences are what are required for our schools. Children deserve the best as they are our future. If we cannot invest and support them during their childhood then we are failing children. If we do not ensure that school day is delivered by a professional who has had essential training, then we open the door for sub par experiences, less support for those children who require it and also less challenge for the children who require it. With the effects of Covid still affecting children in our school system we cannot further fail these children by removing the very people qualified to support them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How are you going to find this. Kids can not be expected to have this time without stimulating resources	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	"West Lothian has developed an agile learning culture and approach and delivered improved school attainment results and improved learning experiences for pupils." I would fundamentally disagree with this. On paper, this might be suggested, but the reality is that it is not true. It cannot be. I have been on a maximum timetable since I finished being a probationer, and never have I had less time for anything. I can't remember the last time I was able to create a new unit of work from scratch. I spend my spare time at the photocopier, uploading work to Team for pupils who don't attend class, which they'll never look at; doing 'mandatory e-learning'... We can no longer moderate prelims, having only 6 days to mark them (In English this involves more than 20 hours work). There is nothing agile about what we do. The only people who think so are in position where to peddle such nonsense benefits their career.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds dangers and threatens the quality of education. Children go to school to learn. Most would agree that they should be taught by a qualified teacher for the best out comes possible. COVID gave us a taste of what happen when we try and teach without teachers , it didn't work. Please please don't dilute our children's education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children are already in a learning deficit due to remote learning due to Covid lockdowns. Replacing face to face learning with more self driving online learning will damage them further. Given they are the ones who will be most impacted by the economic black hole we are currently in, the least we can do is offer them a decent education to get them off on the right foot in life! Cutting time with teachers and the school week by 50 mins is not in the best interest of pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	On line digital learning is good but a plan to reduce teacher v pupil ratio whilst still having same school times ...are the savings to be found by reducing teaching staff? If so....desist.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children need as much teacher contact as possible. Due to the loss of vital learning growth and development during and following the pandemic, they require ongoing and quality teacher time to regain lost skills and to catch up where skills knowledge and development have been restricted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing teacher/pupil time will be detrimental to pupil learning and reduce the educational standards.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I cannot stress enough how West Lothian undervalues the skills of their teaching staff with the ridiculous suggestions above. Who would plan and provide these 'additional learning experiences' during what would have been RCC time?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Very unclear from your description what this means for pupils and staff so hard to say if support. Minded to not support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children do not need less teacher contact time. Teachers are worth way more than they get acknowledgment for	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	children deserve high quality teaching from a quality, fully trained teacher - not a PSW! Teacher training and further CPD is of high standard and importance to ensure childrens needs are met in regards to learning and to take that away and provide a time where non teaching staff take over a key role is actually wrong!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not think teacher / pupil time should be reduced, it should be increased depending on the ability of each individual child.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	To reduce teacher time with pupils is ludicrous. ; There is very little else to say. ; We need more teacher time not less. We need more teachers and pupil support staff not fewer. ; Our children need this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The providers of these alternative learning experiences still have to be paid for - music, language, PE etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Whatever does this mean? Children are behind in their learning due to school closures. Teacher contact time needs increased not decreased (as a school teacher). There needs to be a reduction on teacher carrying out superlative administrative tasks which takes time away from planning. For example this week i had to complete two forms and risk assessmenrs on evolve for a short walk to the local library.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would not be supportive of this change as structure of west lothian school timetable already concentrates learning into shorter period than other regions, via short lunches and half days on Fridays. To maximise learning experience need to maintain teacher contact time, effectively you are asking kids from range of background to be more efficient in their learning which is not a saving just a poorer service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Really concern at the impact on our childrens learning. Further information required on how this will not be impacted. Please explain how the school day will look like and the hours when teachers are not available what will happen to the children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Yeah in line with local authorities but not in line with an average worker cutting hours on top of huge amount of pointless holidays yeah that's good for a child that is advanced learning skills or adhd	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils need teacher contact time - if we have learned anything from the pandemic experience it is this - pupils suffered hugely having to teach themselves online please do not reduce this any further. Teaching face to face should be the core of your provision. Do not alter the school week, how can it be reduced by 50 minutes but no change to start and end time of school day? This does not make sense - overall please do NOT reduce pupil teacher contact time any further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Whilst a reduction to 22.5 hours sounds great, and could lead to a 4 day working week, it in absolutely no way should lead to a reduction in the ability for pupils to engage with specialist teachers who tend to cover the non contact time of our class teachers. Specialists play a massive part ,with their extensive knowledge and experience, in providing our pupils with a holistic education. If we reduce the specialist teachers in our schools then we will leave behind a whole section of pupils for whom specialist delivered subjects such as PE, Science and Art are where they thrive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you are reducing teaching time then expectations for attainment need to follow suit. Teachers are not magicians. Alongside the proposed reductions in support it will become impossible to meet the increasing needs of our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who will be with the children for these 2.5 hours if not teachers? It will just be babysitting and so what is the point of keeping children in school for this time?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I strongly disagree with this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	no	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Makes sense. Should have been done long ago.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduce	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	kids lose out yet again	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely not.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't reduce teacher/pupil contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with a reduction in teacher/pupil contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a not a suitable option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Leave it as is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Joke	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Totally against	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with this change	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	ABSURD. Children need to be taught by teachers in schools and parents at home. School is for EDUCATION NOT CHILD MINDING.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I can't see this working.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No I don't agree with this either children work better with teacher pupil interaction not computer's	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am opposed to any reduction in teacher contact time. Our child is currently in a combined class which is not ideal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agile learning, what a load of nonsense. You should be increasing contact time, not reducing it. Reduced contact time is detrimental to those children who most need it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No no no. Investment for the educational needs for the future not reductions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	i disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would not be comfortable with pupil/teacher contact time being reduced even without a change to the primary school start and end times. How the contact time is spread across the school days is not something I would be concerned about too much as classroom assistants can be used to expand on the subject the teacher had introduced. However I do not agree with reducing contact time and dont really understand how this would deliver as saving without changing the start and end of the school day (of which I wouldnt agree with either).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing the contact that pupils have with qualified teachers would also be detrimental to their learning and schools would be unable to provide quality activities and experiences during this time. Sports clubs are too expensive to hire for this time and pupils would end up doing unstructured activities with little learning or social skills involved. Many pupils with asd or other social difficulties would also find this unstructured time difficult. By providing qualified PE teachers during teacher non contact time, pupils are engaging in quality teaching of sports, this would not be of equal standard if class teachers are providing this without specialist knowledge. The time to teach PE would also mean a reduction of teaching and learning of core skills, such as literacy and numeracy. Additionally, there would then be schools with surplus teachers without the availability of jobs, and making it very difficult for newly qualified teachers to obtain employment following their TIS year. Overall cutting teacher contact times within schools would result in lower pupil attainment, reduction of quality learning experiences, a decrease in support for pupils with learning gaps, increased teaching staff unemployment and would not be beneficial in any way to pupils, parents or staff. Education should be one of the councils highest priorities - children are our future and without investing in their education we are not investing in a Scotland fit for the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our pupils do not need less contact time with a primary teacher but rather more. The current literacy and numeracy levels experienced for new S1 pupils are not a good indication of how less contact would be of any benefit to our young people. This is also the case for secondary pupils where less time with a class teacher would be a negative	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Kids have missed out on so much education with covid. Surely school hours should be more not less!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This proposal would have a significant impact on an already crowded curriculum. If the children are to lose the 2.5 hours of RCCT subject teaching for "agile learning" (delivered by presumably non GTCS staff). If that is the case, what of your teachers currently in this role? Are there new jobs for them? What do you propose is cut from a crowded timetable to accommodate the subjects currently delivered by the RCCT teachers?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This survey really is not very clear. No I do not want my children to have less teaching time if that is what you are asking. How would that even work? Are you saying extend lunch and break?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds ridiculous as a parent and a teacher. You need to look at saving money elsewhere. How is this GIRFEC???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This makes no sense. Yes teacher contact time with pupils is max 22.5 hours however, pupils are still taught during the remainder of their time in school. They are taught by rcct teachers and are still accessing the curriculum during this time. A reduction in hours of the school day would mean pupil learning would suffer. It seems the council wishes to reduce this and use cheaper alternatives to teachers to 'babysit' children for the rest of the day. This devalues teaching and learning to a massive extent. Pupils will suffer if this method is used.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	RCCT teaching staff have a vital role in schools to help cover areas of the curriculum by providing high quality learning experiences. Teachers timetables are already jam packed with all curricular areas to ensure breadth of learning and so, although children may get 'alternate learning experiences' from this new cover, will it cover Es and Os from the curriculum that we are still expected to fit in? Will it actually help teachers in anyway cover the already vast amount of outcomes per year? Likewise there's already a shortage of jobs for teachers with many Scottish teachers now leaving the profession or moving abroad. Reducing jobs further by bringing in other cover will further escalate the employability crisis many professionals are experiencing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So children will have 2.5 hours with someone who is not teacher trained? This will be wholly detrimental to the closing the poverty related attainment gap agenda. Attainment will drop quickly and teachers will struggle to deliver the same amount of learning within reduced time. This will mean the quality of teaching will drop and the pressure on teaching staff will hugely increase with a detrimental effect on their mental wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is going to have a detrimental affect to learners and teaching staff. It is clear this a a veiled attempt to further reduce staff and have teachers (most likely) in class during the school day. I would be very interested to know specifically which other local authorities follow this structure and how it operates specifically to ensure this is not a way of teachers losing RCCT.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is rather insulting towards learners, teachers and parents that the council feel this is a good way to save money. As a parent I am not happy that the council feel they can take away my child's right to high quality education to save money whilst making much smaller cuts in other areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How can a reduction in qualified teacher contact be a positive thing? As I stated previously, we are still dealing with the effects of covid on childrens education. The current employment situation for a large amount of teachers is shocking, in terms of finding work. By reducing teacher contact time would have a detrimental impact on not only their learning but also the number of jobs, and the job security, for teachers. It also puts pressure on schools to recruit the cheapest option of less experienced teachers. Again, another huge detrimental impact on the learners.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What you are not saying is that children are taught by other qualified teachers for an additional 2.5hrs/week in a specific area of the curriculum. These proposals would result in our children receiving less teaching and learning time. No. That cannot be allowed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is the most shocking of all. First thing is, it completely undermines the teaching profession once again. Are you trying to play in to the hands of the people who already view an extremely professional, essential and hard working group of people as glorified babysitters! As a parent I am shocked at the disregard for my children's education. How can you say that a PSW or other can do a better job at teaching my children, I know they can't. This shows me how little West Lothian values my family and my children's education. This is their future and they are entitled to a full and proper education by qualified teachers. I find this disgusting. I am also concerned at the lack of importance the council place on Expressive arts. The importance of music, PE, art and drama is an essential part of our curriculum and West Lothian have a blatant disregard for these areas. All of my children thrive in PE and music and have gone on to achieve As in their SQA exams and this is only because they have been taught Over the years by qualified and experienced teachers. This is another area which I find utterly unbelievable and I know other authorities dinky have this disregard for these important subjects. Also for the secondary pupils how on earth can you reduce their teaching time the results last year for exam passes was shocking. Where exactly are you going to take the time away from them, they only get 30 minutes for lunch are you going to reduce that! I cannot believe these are your proposals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This suggestion is unacceptable. Children should be taught by a qualified teacher at all times. This could be a language, PE or music teacher with the point being given it is always a teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't see how this is going to work and think it's a disgrace if the answer is to put pupils in a room in front off screens for 2.5 hours a week! Cut the school day by 25min moon to Thursday, go back too 9-3. Run sports instead during the 2.5 hours a week and have a sport's afternoon and cut p.e. from being delivered by teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unsure how you can reduce teacher / pupil. Contact time but not reduce school day. What are children doing for 2.5hrs a week with no teacher? This risks schools becoming viewed as childcare instead of educational establishments	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I oppose this proposal. Children cannot teach themselves, after losing education time due to the pandemic children need as much teacher time and active education contact as possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I can't see how this would benefit pupils and the statement doesn't explain how the kids would be impacted or how this saves so much money! I don't think less time with a teacher can be a good idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Additionally reducing the school day and reducing the number of teaching will cause children to lose already precious high quality teaching and learning time that children cannot do without, especially in the aftermath of school closures due to the global pandemic.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There is no continuity in restructuring the school day, quite the opposite. Reducing teachers will cause more harm than the good any savings could make. Parents will expect that their children receive the same amount of quality schooling that the rest of Scotland receive, delivered by qualified teachers. In an post pandemic era where the core areas of literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing are of top priority along with quality teaching and learning experiences, giving children less time with qualified teachers will not allow for education recovery to continue. If anything, more qualified teachers are needed to support educational recovery, to target the attainment gap and the gaps created by a loss of schooling over the previous two years. Smaller class sizes, more additional support and an increase in non-class contact time are the only solutions to support high quality teaching and learning. Reducing the school day and pupil contact with qualified teachers would be detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is not acceptable for young people. They deserve the right to the 22.5 hours contact time with a teacher. Alternative learning can continue in school with lunchtime/after school clubs. For secondary pupils, this should be brought iine with other local authorities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	May affect parents with kids of different ages.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Per my previous comments regarding education, any reduction in contact time between teachers and pupils should not be considered. The pupils require all the support they can get at the moment to bridge the gap created by Covid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would not want tecaher contact time reduced in favour of computer or less qualified staff, children are the future of west lothian and scotland	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	To replace qualified teachers with external agencies to cover classes is unacceptable. There is no guarantee of the quality of this input or progression for pupils. Although perhaps knowledgeable in their field they would not necessarily have the skill set to manage pupil behaviour and health and safety issues that teachers familiar to the pupils would be able to do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	With the attainment in West Lothian being far far behind other authorities, how can you be sure that reduced teacher/pupil contact time will not affect this in a detrimental manner. What are the pupils supposed to do if there are no teachers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't agree with this at all. Kids need teachers time to learn. Need more teaching time! Not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Contact time with my child is pretty much 0% as a result of Autism and covid. Services available and support within schools is awful. Staff themselves can only do so much, they need help to deliver the things that you keep piling on them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Completely out of the question to reduce time in school with teachers. School day remaining the same but reduced time with teachers is BABYSITTING. The quality of alternative adult care would be low (to reduce cost) so would not be music provision etc but minimum wage supervision. Why even bother? Just send kids home (especially secondary age) if you are going to have time spent without teachers!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would look after the children during non-contact time? Does this mean additional planning for the time we aren't in contact with the class? P1 could struggle massively with this unless you suggest they just have extra play time? I don't understand how this actually works in practice? An adult is still required to ensure the safety of the children in the class if the length of the school day is to stay the same.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing the school week is not a good idea. Restructuring the terms might be better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils would then receive 2.5hrs less teacher contact time over the school week, increasing the attainment gap as teacher input cannot be substituted with other activities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is quite frankly ridiculous and clearly not thought out by anyone who spends time in our ASN schools. Try putting pupils first for a change and start listening to your staff!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Leave the day as it is or extend the Friday to 3pm. Cuts should not be happening within the education system it's a joke, other areas could make the cuts especially management wages	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Less time with teachers? Are you having a laugh??? Our schools are struggling enough already, they cannot take any more cuts! Our kids deserve much better state schooling than they currently get! The gap between state and independant schools is widening and it simply is not fair. It's not our kids fault the country is in tatters, but if we don't arm them with a decent education then how are they going to be the change that fixes this mess!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This reminds me of when you took teachers out of nurseries to save money. Children are legally entitled to a full time education. This should be done by people who are qualified to deliver it. Reducing teacher contact time for pupils will result in job losses for specialist teachers as well as reduced experiences and opportunities for pupils. This is completely unacceptable as you will be further diluting the education provided by employing cheaper, less qualified staff as has been done in nurseries. Agile learning is not about cutting budget but is about meeting children's needs where they are in a varied way. It's about personalisation of the curriculum. Cutting budgets will reduce opportunity to do this creatively and effectively.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Educational standards are poor so u would not support disadvanateging our children further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	NOT A GOOD IDEA TO REDUCE CONTACT TIME WITH TEACHERS.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What are alternative learning experiences? How can you save money unless these alternatives are unsupervised, which would be disastrous. It's so confusing, it is very difficult to comment on it. I am opposed to a reduction in the school day, and see above about volunteers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No This is madness	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not a good idea to sacrifice contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree. Do not cut funding to education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I strongly oppose this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't think reducing teacher pupil time can be good.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Please do not reduce teacher/pupil contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I disagree with this measure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No happy with this at all!!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	My concern would be that few options would be offered and wouldn't meet the needs of all pupils. Especially those who are not 'sporty' or 'academic'.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a ridiculous idea. We have primary pupils who have missed out on 2 years of teaching face to face and you want to reduce this. We will end up with an illiterate society. There are pupils now in 2022 who haven't learnt the time or their basic times tables entering secondary school. Parents do not fill the gaps missed by teaching.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with this proposal, our children deserve to be with a fully qualified teacher for their full school day. I am completely against this proposal and I am extremely concerned as to what the children will be doing for 2.5 hours. Will this increase, if staff RCCT is increased as proposed. Currently children receive specialist teaching at these times - does this mean they lose out on that?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The requirement for fewer teachers will lead to a reduction in the pool of experienced teachers. What will happen if we need more teachers and they are settled in better paid, less stressful jobs and won't come back?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure how reducing teacher pupil contact time is seen as something positive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	contact time should stay the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	contact time should be the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	contact time should be the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	contact time should stay the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	contact time should be the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	contact time should remain the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Contact time should be the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	contacted time should be the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Contact time should stay the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not support this. Again, education disruptions need to be kept to a minimum. Pupil/teacher contact time needs to remain.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing teacher pupil time is ridiculous. They lost enough time during the lockdowns and you propose this. How about increase council tax rent and make money off your properties. A 3 bedroom property for £75 a week is a bargain.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What would children do for the remainder of the school day? Is this the digital delivery of the curriculum referred to above? I do not support reduced teacher input. This seems likely to impact on outcomes for children. Given the Covid related school closures many children have experienced since 2020, I think that reducing teacher contact time is unwise.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children have already suffered during covid from not having face to face teaching time with teachers. I feel the future of our kids is in more face to face teaching and not reducing this as least until higher up in high school, when children should be able to adapt there learning. I have a dyslexic child and he has been struggling and needs more hands on, I am lucky he is at a school that supports his needs, but I have had to move him to this school and suffer to financial burden of getting him there to make sure he gets this help. Lessening the face to face time with teachers is not something I agree with.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	not acceptable really, schools are closed enough with more holidays than required	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This should not be done because teaching is important and the contact time should not be reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Instead of children getting a high level of curriculum; Within these times they'll get a twinkle worksheet and a film to watch from Netflix!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Alternative learning experiences can also contribute to raising attainment and achievement.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think the school week is short enough as it is. If anything teacher contact hours should be increased	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How are our children supposed to recover from the impacts the pandemic had on learning with less teacher contact?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Primary/secondary alignment could help transition.; Pupil/teacher contact time should not be reduced but increased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely ridiculous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher/pupil contact time is very important. With children sitting behind a computer screen too many hours a day already, they need this social interaction.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The curriculum is already crammed full without a reduction in teaching time. Again, what does this mean in practice for the school day? If they are in school for the same number of hours but not being taught, what are they doing? who will be responsible for them?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Terrible idea. How will the children be supervised? Again, limiting the support for those who need it to improve and provide opportunities for the future	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Completely disagree for reasons indicated above, any reduction in teacher/ pupil contact is only reducing, particularly those from lower income households chances of full potential for educational attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The move to "not change the school day" only serves to move schools into childcare providers rather than educational establishments.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Alternative learning experiences can also contribute to raising attainment and achievement.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There are far better areas to cut money from than anything to do with cutting the school day. For a start let's stop leaving lights switched on on the outside of closed schools (e.g. Carmondean) particularly as they are surrounded by high fencing and locked gates.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is an unacceptable cut in the extreme. This will lead to a second-class education in West Lothian primary schools with 95 hours of school time lost, every year, going forward! That is an utter disgrace! ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No Is this some sort of joke. Reduce the number of EOs, protect the schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Education Officers make a significant contribution to quality improvement and raising attainment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Exam procedure - how would the grades be better if they are not getting the taught teacher experience?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	By reducing the timetable to 22.5hours from 25 hours will have significant impact! It will put pressure on my child's class teacher to fit more of the curriculum into an even shorter period of time each week, which will compromise quality of lessons. This will also ultimately make "specialist" teachers redundant, for example, P.E., music and art specialists which provide specialist input beyond the training of a normal class teacher and enrich children's experiences at school. It is also important for children to experience a number of different adults, teaching styles and personalities in any given year.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As stated above in my answer to 1D I do not support the use of third party provides in the education of my children and expect high quality teaching experiences from qualified teachers or specialist teachers that follow and fully understand the curriculum. My children are at school for education and not childcare. This restructuring will ultimately result in less teaching time from qualified teachers, meaning the have to try and squeeze more into already over crowded timetables.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This requires considerable consultation as you don't want to de- value the role of the teacher	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I feel teacher contact time should be maximised as far as possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this is a terrible idea to reduce pupil-teacher contact time. Time with a teacher is crucial to children's attainment and whilst there will be some children who's attainment does not suffer, there will be many who do. Why would you select to do something which would have a negative benefit on a generation of children who did not cause our current problems. They cannot vote here and their voice is limited. They should not be the ones to suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why is EVERY cost cutting effort towards the people who need our help most ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not convinced by this at all. We send our children to school to learn and having more time watching TV shows on the Internet or using ipads is NOT delivering a high quality of teaching or education. It's likely some of these kids do that at home anyway and so quite rightly the school is there to help educate the kids. It's ridiculous the 1/2 day on a Friday as it is - how do you expect parents (mainly women) to be able to go back to work and get a decent job???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Terrible idea. This will fundamentally reduce attainment as pupils lose class contact time. West Lothian already runs an asymmetric week where savings can be made on the Friday afternoon.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There would need to be something in place to make sure the children were doing the learning they are suppose to be doing. With no teachers some kids to fall behind.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If teacher - pupil time is reduced but the time children in school remains the same - who will be teaching the children? I find this proposal very concerning. How is reducing teacher time going to close the attainment gap?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	To suggest that the same curriculum can be taught fewer hours per week is simply ridiculous. If we want to raise attainment - which the council has mentions as an achievement in the above post - we should be ensuring we make no changes to the amount of time that children spend with a qualified teacher. In fact greater attainment would come with more time spent with staff, smaller numbers in classes etc not the reduction in time which is being suggested here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The Scottish Government has created a curriculum detailing all the things children should learn during their time at school. The time children spend in school is filled with learning - there is no extra time. As a teacher I can tell you that some areas of the curriculum are not covered at the moment because there is simply no time.;;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children need more teaching time to make up for the Covid deficit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	less pupil teacher interaction can only serve to affect childrens ability to learn. pupils need support and supervision i cant see where less interaction and reducing the time spent in school can have a positive impact on education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a disgusting proposal and I will protest outside the civic centre if this even dares to be seriously suggested.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I also believe that this 2.5 hours is currently covered by specialist teachers who will now be made jobless and the children will miss out on key learning from such teachers. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Removing 2.5 hours of learning time from the classroom every week is absolutely disgusting.;;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is outrageous and cannot be allowed to proceed.;;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More information is needed in order to comment on this in relation to "alternative learning experiences". Teacher/pupil contact time is important to help children attain results and prepare them for the challenges that adult life brings about.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree, as pupils have already missed enough school due to covid. Senior pupils, who are sitting national qualifications, already don't have much extra time to complete the full range of material, especially in higher/advanced higher qualifications.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for .your comment,
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a bad idea in my opinion- in order to achieve good education standards in West Lothian we need more pupil/teacher time not less. School is not organised babysitting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comments.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No reduction in the school day is acceptable to LLBCC. This is a dilution of the quality of education children will receive by substituting qualified professional educators for those less or un qualified. That is not acceptable under any circumstance to LLBCC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Appauling to consider reducing teacher/pupil contact time and dilute their educational experience at any time, but particularly after Covid.;;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds like a reduction in teaching staff. I would question how we could ensure that other services are going to be able to provide 2.5 hours of provision for every class in every primary school in West Lothian. It doesn't sound like this would be required in secondary schools but again I would question the ability of secondary schools to provide the additional services they offer to young people if every member of staff has less time to carry these things out within their working hours. Is the plan to remove 'registration/tutor'?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Increase the 22.5hrs it appears very low.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is in my opinion it is essential that children receive the best eduction that can possibly be provided. Which in turn will mean a future of amazing opportunities for upcoming generations. Contact with their teacher is paramount to this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am concerned that my children will be losing teacher contact time and also that they will be offered 'alternative learning experiences', which to my mind seems to suggest babysitting rather than learning time. Where is the money coming from to offer these alternative experiences?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Messing about with school times and reducing hours is madness. You might save some money but your effective the learning of that child and your hitting family who then have to fork out more money for care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Extending primary school days could be a major help for parents who may struggle to handle their jobs and childcare. I do not think a reduction in secondary school learning will have any benefit, pupils have so little time with teachers as it is I feel a reduction in this would be detrimental to many	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Omg, this is unbelievable, I've worked in education and pupils don't get the amount of teacher support they need because of large class sizes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher time at school for students is what it's really about I don't see how cutting the teacher time with kids would benefit any one, kids have missed a lot through no fault of their own during recent times, it seems unfair for them to miss out on time with the teachers while their school times remain the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Very poor decision. Supply is in such short demand that a lot of schools are covering RCCT in house anyway with teachers who should be doing ASN of who are SLT. How is this saving any money? Who is covering this extra time? Where are they doing it and who is planning it? Really not well thought out at all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How will the curriculum that already is overloaded be completed in a re-aligned day? How are these times of non class contact be covered? What should be dropped from the timetable to allow this to happen. Teacher's timetables are already overloaded with content that there can't be much more of a reduction in class contact time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	class contact time is important and should not be shortened. the pupils need to be supported more after the recent events of covid lockdown.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is moronic, I wish I could be more constructive, but I genuinely can't. People have been paid money here to come up with the idea that kids should have less time in front of a teacher? Have a word. Which other authorities would this bring us in line with?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How can you suggest this with the amount of teaching that children have already missed over the last two years	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Surely, after 6months of lost learning, reducing contact time with teachers is nonsense. How do we expect the attainment gap that has widened with covid to be closed with this approach?; I send my child to school to learn from qualified professionals in teaching. I do not think babysitting with a non-teacher who gets paid far less is conducive in preparing people with skills and mindsets needed to cope in society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is such a bad idea!!! It beggars belief. Less teaching time but striving to increase attainment. It won't work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Concerned re reduction of secondary time - young people rely on the support of subject specialists to support them and be successful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children need more support than ever. I disagree with cutting that time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Some children need a lot of teacher contact this would have to be assessed on a child to child basis	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduction in teacher/pupil contact time achieving the same educational standards? Why doesn't WLC just admit that a saving of £2.4 million for this will just adversely impact learning?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How bad can things get?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduction in teaching time is not acceptable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing teaching time is hardly going to help improve standards in education, which are already pretty bad (even without the impact of covid lockdowns and strikes).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am uncomfortable with children having reduced teacher/contact time. They are already behind academically as a result of covid and other issues. Children's education needs to be prioritised.; ; The secondary school week is already very short, particularly as there is no school on a Friday afternoon. It sounds as though this proposal means that break/lunch times will be extended by 50 minutes each week so there would be even less learning taking place in schools. If we are to look at local authorities, then Stirling, Falkirk & Fife pupils are in school for 5 full days (no Friday half-day). If the full 5-day school week was in place in West Lothian, this would have a beneficial impact on the job opportunities for parents as they wouldn't need to rely on part-time work roles/after school clubs and families could have higher incomes which in turn would benefit the local economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As above. Cuts are all detrimental to children a education which has already suffered. Find cuts elsewhere or you will increase inequality and cause hardship.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Terrible, don't agree, children need proper teaching as it is , they already have a half day on a Friday, with reduced hours, which doesn't happen down south	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	My concern about reducing teacher/pupil contact time is again for those who are the most vulnerable and need this support more than others. Changes like this need to be backed with evidence of how our more vulnerable will continue to receive the appropriate amount of support. Will issues such as Ld, dyslexia etc remain unnoticed and unmanaged.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is already extremely challenging to deliver the crowded curriculum within the school day. The additional hours covered by RCCT teachers enable all curriculum areas to be delivered. The expectation that all curriculum areas can be delivered with less teacher time is unrealistic.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I send my child to private school as you have decimated education. Cutting contact time is another way of saying reducing headcount. Yet again wrong answer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Utterly shameful to provide the children and young people of West Lothian with a reduced amount of time with their teachers. It can be spun in any way you like but this is not how attainment is raised!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm concerned about primary pupils not having access to a teacher for some of their learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	TERRIBLE IDEA!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	THIS IS A TERRIBLE IDEA FOR MANY MANY, MANY REASONS!;;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The children are still learning during the 2.5hrs that the class teacher has RCCT time. They're just being taught by a different teacher. Whether that be science, RE, music or PE etc, they're are still learning. There is little enough time to teach everything in the curriculum and now you're going to reduce it by 2.5hrs. This will definitely impact the children's learning.;;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Completely disagree. Our children have missed enough teacher time in the last few years and with a jam packed curriculum that is already hardly being met this would have a major negative impact on outcomes for our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would be with the children if teachers are not? I have concerns about how this would be delivered to ensure children are safe and that their care and learning is not negatively impacted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No. Children need the valuable teacher contact time. Quality alternative learning experiences could not be provide by non-teaching staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I believe this would have a significant impact on the children in our Local Education Authority. 2.5hours per week over a year will significantly impact on them. With an already full timetable, many subjects (and, thus, vital skills) will be lost or not learnt. I also believe it will impact on children's literacy and numeracy skills. They will also have no time to learn vital skills for life/for the working world. Children deserve to be taught by a qualified teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure this would being secondary school pupils best interests every minute spent being supported encouraged and taught by teachers is vital	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would be deeply concerned about a reduction in teacher/pupil contact time. RCCT gives opportunity for children to be taught by specialist teachers and other teachers covering different areas of the curriculum. I wonder which part of the curriculum would be proposed to be dropped if contact time is reduced and what the alternative experiences provided would be?; In secondary this would be the equivalent of a period of one subject being lost entirely. With the crowded BGE curriculum this would further reduce time for each subject and surely in the senior phase would lead to challenge covering the required curriculum in advance of national qualifications. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is ridiculous! RCCT teachers deliver important lessons to our pupils. It would mean the class teacher would have to pick up the slack when the curriculum is also jam-packed! Our young people will miss out on very important learning time. This should not be implemented!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Terrible idea. Won't sit well with staff, pupils or parents. There are so many pupils who are ASN or have behavioural needs who will not cope with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would mean that children would receive 2.5 hours less teaching every week. This is huge over a child's school career and would be detrimental to their learning. This also does not help to working families with childcare difficulties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. School start and finish times will not change so there will be no impact on childcare.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As a teacher who provides the class cover for the hrs above class to her contact time I think this is not a good suggestion. I have specialist knowledge and provide a much greater learning experience for children than anyone not trained to this level. Who would coordinate this ? Where will you get these individuals - usually they need to take smaller groups so how do we facilitate that in school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A reduction in pupil and teacher time is a terrible idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not believe that less contact time between pupils and teachers will have a positive impact on attainment especially considering lots of national qualification courses are already difficult to deliver timeline wise during the academic year. This would mean the pace of learning and teaching would need to greatly increase or that pupils would have less opportunity to take an active part in their learning with more direct chalk and talk lecturing needing to take place to make up for the loss of time which is contrary to all leading teaching pedagogy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Terrible. Pupils already miss out on hours. The school day should be longer, not shorter.; For many, it is the only safe place they have and you propose chipping away at that. ; ; This also sounds like you plan to rob primary school pupils of their current plethora of activities and subject specialists. Standard class teachers cannot be expected to teach to the same levels of learning and engagement as a subject specialist in music or art, for example.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't believe the adjustment needs to happen your then only condensation education at high school level which is the most important years for children to go on and get jobs. Do this your going to be paying more benefits out to those who suffer from this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Will the remainder of the time be with a qualified teacher or are children going to be short changed with what will result in a baby-sitting service? Are the terms and conditions of teachers going to be changed and has proper consultation been undertaken by stakeholders? If the school day is being reduced in line with teacher contact time will this not put added pressure on an already busy curriculum.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again how does making the secondary school day shorter ensure that we raise attainment?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't believe this is in the interest of our school pupils as it is a reduction in teaching time. What exactly would these 'alternative' experiences be as I assume this proposal means it is not with a qualified teacher? How would this impact the subjects available to secondary school pupils?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If children are in school but not with their teacher how do they learn? Children should be with a teacher given the amount of time they have already lost to covid. I do not agree to the secondary time being reduced either and would ask what the children will be learning in this time without a teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As mentioned one of my children struggles with change and adding additional adults to his day will cause upset and distress. I would disagree with this point to prevent him and many others further upset.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Without further details, especially primary schools I am not sure that it is possible to comment on this. I assume that the reduction of 50 mins in secondary schools would be an extra 10 mins at lunch or an extra break. 50 mins over the course of a week may impact on attainment for some.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I refer to my earlier comment, no cuts to education.; Absolutely not, our education services must be retained to ensure our young people have the right support in pace to ensure they receive the education they need to succeed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	By reducing the school week we would be cutting time for teaching content. At the moment we are limited and rushed, so reducing this further will put more pressure on teachers. Preparation and correction time was supposed to be, being increased by the Scottish Government but I never realised it was to the detriment on student time in lessons.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is utterly ridiculous - why follow in the steps of the English system that is no role model? This devalues the role of the teacher and places far too much responsibility on the shoulders of people who do not/will not be paid appropriately for the additional responsibility.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Young people have suffered enough since the pandemic. They should be supported with additional funding to catch up with lost learning and to close the attainment gap. Reducing teacher contact with pupils can only have further detrimental effects on young people's education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not quite sure if this would be in the pupils' or teachers' best interests - alternative learning experiences presumably would not be on the ever increasing curriculum. 2.5 hrs usually used to teach within the curriculum would be lost thus increasing u due pressure of time to squeeze in the curriculum. Very dubious about this, especially with the undertones of reducing RCCT teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Secondary schools are still recovering from a loss of learning due to covid, so to reduce teaching time seems ridiculous. I have no idea how primary schools would fulfill the curriculum with less face to face teaching time. Without knowing what an "alternative learning experience" is, it is impossible to judge the validity of this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, School resources and staffing are already stretched to capacity. Reducing this will impact on the education of all children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any reduction in the school week for children will have a detrimental impact on the children's education and well being	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would not agree with any reduction in school time. Schools need to get back to basics and teach pupils the fundamentals in life, eg how to make a cup of tea, make a simple meal, launder clothes, ie Home Economics. Young people joining care as a career often do not have these basis skills.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Once again teacher skill and expertise aren't valued by you. Do you really think parents want their child 'babysat' for part of their school day rather than taught by qualified teachers. I most certainly do not as a parent! We as teachers are stretched trying to fit the curriculum in as it is but RCCT teachers hugely help to fill in gaps. By planning to take them away you are devaluing the service provided in education by all teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a ridiculous idea, the curriculum requires to be followed and although teachers only have contact for 22.5hrs they work together with the RCCT teacher to ensure all areas of the curriculum are being met and the needs of each individual pupil. Also its good for children to experience a little change especially in primary and when they move up to high school they have all the different teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How? Children are entitled to be taught by a registered teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Need more teachers in order to do this and provide an agile curriculum. Subjects at some schools being cut because of staffing which is not good enough. Teachers need time to plan lessons	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There needs to be much more clarity around what this would look like and the impact it would have on children. What does west lothian council mean by an agile curriculum and what evidence is there that this has been delivered consistently to impact on attainment? Our children deserve a high quality of education, delivered by qualified professionals. I would strongly disagree with this being diluted to meet a council budget. Our children deserve better than this and have already lost enough learning time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any decision made about children's education should be based on potential educational benefits rather than budget- I see no educational benefit in this proposal (continuity of the primary teacher does not necessarily mean a benefit to teaching and learning).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I wholeheartedly disagree with this proposal. What is needed in schools are additional pupil support workers to work alongside class teachers and visiting subject specialists for primary schools such as PE specialists, art and design specialists and music specialists.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would this mean using non-teaching staff to 'supervise' lessons of extra play-time? These staff members or third party contractors are not paid enough for this sort of responsibility. School will turn into childcare rather than education with this kind of model in my opinion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would have a massive impact in primary schools where young children need more support, this will absolutely have a detrimental impact on attainment and the life chances of our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How can less targeted teaching time away from their teacher support children's attainment?! ; Provide schools with better resources to allow teachers to do this in primary schools: cooking facilities, wood work, outdoor garden opportunities. Or further budgets for trips away to give children invaluable learning experiences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am a secondary school teacher. I am struggling to visualise what the 50min reduction in the school day would look like in real terms.; ; Would it be something like an increase in lunch break by 10 minutes each day? In which case this would disproportionately affect support staff who have their lunch breaks unpaid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is imperative that teacher pupil contact time is not reduced. The impact of losing this teacher pupil gave to face contact cannot be underestimated in terms of children's attainment and health and well being. This has to be taken into account.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How will this work? What staffing changes will have to be made? How many different faces will these pupils see over the course of a day? Children with additional needs are really going to struggle with so many changes. If a move to digital learning is proposed then appropriate internet must be provided to all schools as well as upgrading all ICT devices.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Please see previous comments about reducing school related budgets. ; ; One again, children and young people deserve the highest quality of education, provided by qualified and trained teaching staff. Teacher numbers in some areas are in crises and retention in some schools - particularly ASN - is an ongoing challenge. Staff rotation again already presents huge challenges. Reducing teacher numbers will only result in a crises where there are no available teachers to cover absences etc. If there are no RCCT cover posts then children and young people will suffer. You cannot rely on non trained and qualified - non teaching staff - delivering a curriculum. Please see previous comments in relationship building also. ; ; This is an unsound and very unwise proposal and will only result in reduced attainment and a failure to meet the commitment to combat the pupil equity related attainment gap.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm struggling to see how this would work. If length of school day will not change are children going to be supervised by support staff to facilitate reduction in contact time? Where are these staff going to come from? Further strain and stress on an already broken profession.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing teacher/pupil contact time is not a good proposal. You have not mentioned what the alternative learning opportunities would be. Who would lead these? Would they just be "time filler" activities?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will only put even more pressure on teachers for attainment and unfortunately goodwill can only go so far. It would be unfair to continue to expect teachers to go above and beyond what they are already doing which is still so so much.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing the school day in line with teacher class contact time is a terrible idea. It is currently extremely difficult to provide 2 hours per week of quality PE time as per the national entitlement of all children, as well as providing adequate time to fit in enough literacy and numeracy learning, not to mention the 13 or so other curricular areas that we are obliged to cover. The Scottish primary curriculum is so cluttered and unmanageable that teachers are completely overwhelmed trying to make it work. By reducing the school day so drastically, it would be impossible to achieve. Something would have to give. I worry for the future generation about the impact this would have on their education. ; ; As a parent to a child who is close to starting secondary education, I am also very worried about these proposed changes. What impact is this going to have on his education and life chances? Quite frankly, it is a horrifying prospect.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as it does not diminish learning, look what happened during covid, and how many of the pupils are behind in their learning. Teachers are now doing after school classes to help pupils try and catch up	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a terrible idea. Pupils need continuity and third party coming in don't know what has gone on before. Teacher needs to be able to speak to parents about everything but they won't know what happens during third party times	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with this. A few years ago, WL high schools stopped registration in the morning so that staff numbers could be reduced-this was detrimental to pupils as they did not have their constant check in from staff. Lots of young people, particularly those with anxiety and autism struggled without their 'soft start' to the day in registration. Every one of these proposed education cuts are detrimental to our young people. Young people have already had such a difficult few years in education due to covid. They cannot afford to have any more time reduced and changes at this time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Childten will learn best when their teacher is there in front of them, done can only learn this way. This proposal will harm children's education and make it about child care only. Especially negatively impacts those with asn. Why would you keep secondary children in school for the same hours, with 50 minutes less teaching time? There is no way this would be beneficial to teenagers!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The attempt to provide on-line learning via Agile Learning during COvid was not successful in a number of school communities, particularly those from more deprived areas. Many children from theses areas did not engage with any on-line learning during school closures. Whilst Agile Learning itself is very positive it needs appropriate input from a classroom teacher. If the council and the Scottish government are committed to reducing the learning gap decreasing in person contact with a qualified teacher is not going to help them achieve this aim.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again children are being penalised by these changes. Children shouldnt be barring the brunt of the savings required. Less teacher contact time will reduce the childrens scholastic experiences. What would these alternative learning experiences even look like, how will this improve attainment, it seems to be just to fill in time sonyou dont cut the school day which is shorter here than other Councils already. What would be better would be if West Lothian schools ran the full week Mon-Fri approx 9-3.30pm as other schools as it feels very much that the children in this Council get less teaching than other Councils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No do not agree. The length of time spent teaching is essential in both primary and secondary. Reducing the teaching time when teachers are striking and demanding more for less teaching, is confusing to me and I do not agree. I do not agree with teachers striking at all and demand more when funds are already tight.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Whilst the opportunity for alternative learning experiences for children is a good idea, this should not come at the expense of teachers. ; How are the children going to access alternative learning opportunities? Why get rid of teachers which cover these 'alternative learning experiences' when teachers are already delivering these experiences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The "agile" learning approach is indeed being developed - but is precisely that - "being developed". There is still a lack of ICT equipment to deliver this fully and effectively. Many areas of West Lothian host families who have no devices or connectivity. This model is a long way in the future for West Lothian without further investment and scrutiny. Attainment results in terms of exams can be seen as robust and reliable. However, too many Primary school teachers professional judgement is being discounted and data mangled to suit the unrealistic target setting from the Centre. Talking truth to power - children in primary schools are between 12 -24 months behind - especially in areas of multiple deprivation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I can't even begin to imagine the chaos that this will cause. Who will take the additional hours? Teachers are highly skilled at behaviour management. With the best will in the world this can't be matched by psw or club leaders. Keeping children, who often don't want to be there, engaged is a skill. You will then lead a culture of opting out. It's a containment at best and potentially very damaging for education going forwards.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Individual teacher class contact time is 22.5 hours however the above statement is misleading. The pupils in West Lothian schools receive 25 hours a week of learning being delivered by a GTCS registered teacher. What the proposal actually means is that West Lothian Council are reducing the number of hours a pupil in West Lothian will have being taught by a registered teacher! These alternative learning providers are not GTCS registered teachers. How are teachers then meant to deliver the curriculum, which is already extremely busy, in reduced class contact hours? As these alternative learning providers are not GTCS registered they cannot deliver the curriculum. This proposal means that children in West Lothian are at a disadvantage with other pupils in Scotland who are being provided with 25 hours of GTCS registered teaching a week, equating to 95 hours a year. Teachers are repeatedly told to make every minute count by SMT and West Lothian Council however it is then okay for the council to remove teaching time. The United Nations Rights of the Child states that every child has rights 'without discrimination of any kind', this proposal discriminates West Lothian school pupils significantly against other pupils in other local authorities within Scotland. If this proposal was to go ahead this would mean 2,660 hours lost by West Lothian children over the course of their education through primary and secondary school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't agree - we should not be reducing teacher/pupil contact time depending on class sizes some pupils can be left behind or certain work is not completed due to time constraints and pressures that teachers currently face	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with this. Reducing teacher contact time would be detrimental to children's learning.; There is also no mention of what the opportunity to provide alternative learning experiences are. ; Personally I think Parents would overall be opposed to this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No don't agree kids need more education not less remember they are the country's future	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Although it says the agile learning culture has been Developed. This is not happening in every school with whole school groups unaware of this term. Teacher/pupil contact time is highly important. "Alternative learning experiences" devalues the role of the teacher. People who commit an incredible amount of time of professional development, life long learning and strict standards.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As I told before, education is one of the most important and investment for a country. Therefore I oppose this idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing the school hours will not benefit young people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher & pupil contact time should not be reduced. When teachers are late for the start of a class, or a substitute teacher is required, or you are told at Parents Evening that there may not be enough time to complete the syllabus..... this tells me that Teacher Pupil time should be increased - not reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How do you not change the length of the school day if teacher is not teaching who is staffing this and what would it be.; How can cutting teaching time benefit our children covid had meant they have missed out a lot already on education, social relationships etc.; Some children need school due to the home environments they live in.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing teacher contact time is one of the worst things the council could cut. A teacher is a hugely influential and important person in a child's life. Their role cannot be underestimated. They can literally change the course of a child's life. They encourage, they guide, they notice problems and find help for the child. Technology is no replacement for a teacher. Technology does none of the above and it does not respond to a child's needs in the way a teacher does, no matter how sophisticated the technology.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds like it will impact on learning opportunities and attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think that this proposal leaves many questions unanswered and is quite unclear. What exactly are "alternative learning experiences" and will these be as valuable to our children as the experiences they currently receive (usually lessons delivered by qualified, GTCS registered professionals)? If we currently cram an ever expanding (and increasingly unrealistic) curriculum into 25 hours, how will we be expected to do the same in 22.5 hours, while also raising attainment? If the council expect results from their teachers and young people and continue to develop a data / attainment driven culture, which induces an incredible amount of stress and pressure, then they need to provide a more clearly defined proposal than this. Young people deserve high-quality education at all times and teachers deserve their NCT, in the knowledge that their pupils are being properly cared and provided for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Will this result in reduced staffing levels in schools? A decreased focus on 'non-academic' subjects? I can't see how this change could possibly benefit students in secondary.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So less time with any structure and kids on their phones turning into zombies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again I don't see how reducing money to the schools is of any benefit!, so many teachers simply leave, leaving kids with teacher job shares, or no teachers at all! Attracting the best teachers and retaining them should be where money is spent	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why? What good would this do? Kids are already running riot. S1 are vaping in school bathrooms. Some school have kids dealing drugs in the playground (I know this my kids are at these schools!); By reducing time teachers are around will increase the issues already present .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you are going to reduce the amount of teacher pupil contact time then reduce the school day and send our children home to have that time with family or extra circular activities outside school. I do not agree with sending my children to an education setting where they are choosing to substitute good teachers for screens or technology. Children do not learn by being sat in front of the screen whether it be, iPad, TV, Internet etc and the recent policy's for teachers in WLC in-service days supports the alternative of getting kids outside, getting them involved etc rather than screens. Sitting in front of a screen is clearly a contradiction to pervious policy's from WLC and most worryingly a huge deterrent to our children growth and development. Teachers are professional educational specialists and the use of technology or screens cannot replace that vital student/teacher role. A screen cannot nurture, technology doesn't explain the way a teacher can, technology cannot model their approach for the individual. Our young people are going through a huge crisis at the moment and are exposed to excess amount of screen time, which is causing a huge mental health crisis. Let our children come home early and have positive experiences at home rather than filling up the school day with absolute nonsense. I can not reiterate enough that you can't replace teachers with technology - children learn from being encouraged, lead, praised and being absolutely surrounded by real learning experiences, rather than something that is on a screen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council has well established practice of supplementing excellent classroom teaching with effective use of technology. The two are complementary, rather than alternatives.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with sending my children to an education setting where they are choosing to substitute good teachers for screens or technology. Children do not learn by being sat in front of the screen whether it be, iPad, TV, Internet etc and the recent policy's for teachers in WLC in-service days supports the alternative of getting kids outside, getting them involved etc rather than screens. Sitting in front of a screen is clearly a contradiction to pervious policy's from WLC and most worryingly a huge deterrent to our children growth and development (of which there has been numerous research on and evidence).; ; Teachers are professional educational specialists and the use of technology or screens cannot replace that vital student/teacher role. A screen cannot nurture, technology doesn't explain the way a teacher can, technology cannot model their approach for the individual. Our young people are going through a huge crisis at the moment and are exposed to excess amount of screen time, which is causing a huge mental health crisis. Let our children come home early and have positive experiences at home rather than filling up the school day with absolute nonsense. I can not reiterate enough that you can't replace teachers with technology - children learn from being encouraged, lead, praised and being absolutely surrounded by real learning experiences, rather than something that is on a screen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely would no support this measure. After Covid interruptions, especially for our youngest pupils, reducing access to trained professionals is dangerously harmful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils have already lost out due to lockdown and further reductions in their hours will only lead to more learning loss. Those times in primary with a specialist music,pe, maths or other teacher are vital for them developing their learning and also allows in transition between primary and secondary to be smoother and easier for all pupils. In secondary pupils are already struggling to complete their courses in the time given for senior phase and reducing their hours will have a missicely negative impact on learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again taking away vital educational input for each child resulting in poorer standards! Scottish Education perhaps should change its name to Scottish Childminding Services!; Our children will no longer be delivered a good education provided by trained teachers! This cut in the long run will have a huge effect on our future work force.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not think any changes to the school day should be made. We need to make sure teachers are able to teach their classes and would not benefit the children to have different staff watching them all the time and do not see how reducing teacher time would help kids catch up on their education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Strongly oppose. This is a deliberate undermining of the role of teachers. Pupils receive qualified teacher support when clad teachers are having non contact time. This proposal aims at replacing the PE/ Art/ Music teaching with unskilled low quality provision. This is not compatible with a drive for improvement in learning experiences. No!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	We are concerned that any changes to support staffing will disproportionately impact those who; are already disadvantaged, which would undermine the goals of inclusion and equity;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	; ; We are concerned that changes to resourcing will have a negative impact on teaching and; learning;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The high value of this saving implies to us that it is likely to lead to a reduction in overall staffing; levels with a resulting impact on curricular provision. The loss of any support staff is likely to; impact wellbeing significantly, and we ask that this there is no adverse change to pupil support.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Blended learning is fine in principle but children in S4-6 need access to teachers and responses to their questions in a effective, efficient and timely manner.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree.; Theoretically, the teacher contact time is 22.5 hours per week. However, most teachers work every day until 5/6pm preparing resources, planning, participating in trainings, collegiate networking, working hard to do their best and meet the needs of our students.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Offers continuity with what? ; I don't think this is a good idea as it moves towards childcare rather than education. Could workload be reduced for teachers while maintaining pupil contact time? My teacher friends complain of endless paperwork.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children deserve TEACHERS for their whole school day. In order to provide an agile learning cultured to continue the improved attainment results they need TEACHERS. I find this proposal completely unacceptable on all levels. I feel strongly that when my child, or any child is in school they should be learning with a teacher. It is completely unacceptable that my child could be in school to be ; 'looked after' by someone who is not a qualified teacher for 2.5 hours of their week. I do not see how reducing pupil - teacher contact time will provide any continuity for children as they will not be with a teacher and will be in the care of someone else - not clear who this will be! Why can they not continue to receive music or PE from the teacher who covers RCCT? This is not an acceptable proposal - OUR CHILDREN DESERVE BETTER.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think it is a good thing to provide alternative experiences for children but I do not agree with reducing teachers hours	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	NO NO NO NO!!!!; OUR CHILDREN DESERVE BETTER. ARE THEY NOT ENTITLED TO THE SAME TEACHER CONTACT AS THE REST OF SCOTLAND?; DISASTER WAITNG TO HAPPEN.; This is UNACCEPTABLE ON ALL LEVELS.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not support any part of this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not support any reduction in teacher contact time. My children attend school to learn and develop from skilled professionals. It is not and should not just be childcare. ; ; Our children eventually need to apply for university places and jobs with others from all over the country. Do not let our children be at a disadvantage. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Your proposal is undermining the teaching professional and assume that as long as pupils are still being babysat by someone they will be continuing to meet the experiences and outcomes of the curriculum? I find this proposal absolutely shocking, particularly with the current exam results within West Lothian's secondary schools. I find it ABSOLUTELY DISGUSTING that you are looking to provide 'alternative learning experiences' without clarifying what you mean by this and hoping it goes under the radar and parents accept this as long as children are still in school. It is clear by this that West Lothian do not have the needs of West Lothian's children really at the heart of what they are doing. If you hope West Lothian to strive you MUST give education in the area more support, not strip it of what schools are already struggling through!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There are hugely negative implications on the children of West Lothian and the teaching profession. Teacher contact time is currently 22.5 hours per week but children have more time with other fully trained staff with degrees in Education, pedagogy of teaching children and specialists in music and PE for example (again, fully qualified to TEACH). By proposing the reduction of pupil-teacher contact time you are implying that the time pupils spend with other FULLY QUALIFIED STAFF is wasted time and can now be undertaken by who? Pupil support staff? Someone with a hobby in art? A gardener? The price for some sports experiences such as football buzz costs more per hour than what a teacher costs - a teacher who has trained through education Scotland and has GTC recognition - can you guarantee whoever you have to cover the 're-aligned school day' meets the GTC standards for education?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would be teaching? Are they qualified? Are they at all appropriate people to lead students?; ; Teachers need support in the classroom, but not at the detriment of their (underappreciated & underpaid) employment.; ; This proposal is disrespectful to professional educators.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This feels incredibly deceitful on your part. Teachers may have 22.5hrs contact time with pupils but for the remainder of the school week the children are still receiving their education from qualified teachers, often specialists. You are suggesting watering down our children's education at both primary and secondary level. Absolutely not. Parents will not stand for that. Horrified you'd even consider it frankly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So what you're saying here is that to save money you will reduce the amount of time that children spend with qualified teachers and instead fill it with 'alternative learning experiences'. I would suggest this is a terrible idea if as a council you are looking to increase educational attainment. Pretty sure there is a reason that children are taught by teachers currently. Again, for secondary school timings, reducing the amount of time children are taught seems like a short-term saving with a long-term detrimental impact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unsure why any parent would want their child to have reduction in pupil/teacher time? And how this would be saving such a huge amount of money!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree now is not the time covid had a huge impact on kids ; ; Parents are not teachers we need more teachers . This would also impact working parents who would then need to reschedule work childcare	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would require more information about what this means. If the consideration is that support staff look after the children during this time, I feel this is inappropriate. Learning should be fully planned and implemented by trained teachers. If the learning experiences are by trained coordinators and it was a positive extra curricular activity such as digital, outdoor learning, music it could be an option. Information is not clear.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am concerned that reducing the amount of teaching time will have a detrimental effect on teaching and learning. Altering the finely balanced timetable will not be straightforward at Linlithgow Academy, where there is no straightforward option of removing registration periods (there are none). It is not clear how this alteration would result in such a significant saving. If the day does get reduced in this way I would welcome a consultation about whether the extra 10 minutes per day are added to a break time, or through altering the start or end time. Linlithgow Academy is extremely full and reports from students make me aware that break times are crowded and can be difficult for young people: increasing the unstructured time at school may not best serve them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children deserve TEACHERS for their whole school day. In order to provide an agile learning culture to continue the improved attainment results they need TEACHERS. I find this proposal completely unacceptable on all levels. I feel strongly that when my child, or any child is in school they should be learning with a teacher. It is completely unacceptable that my child could be in school to be ; 'looked after' by someone who is not a qualified teacher for 2.5 hours of their week. I do not see how reducing pupil - teacher contact time will provide any continuity for children as they will not be with a teacher and will be in the care of someone else - not clear who this will be! Why can they not continue to receive music or PE from the teacher who covers RCCT? This is not an acceptable proposal - OUR CHILDREN DESERVE BETTER. Are our children not legally entitled to the same hours of teacher contact as the rest of scotland.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Although this is deliberately vague, it is apparent that secondary pupils would have 50m less of valuable supported learning compared to what they have already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This causes me very serious concern. Children have lost out on education as part of covid and cutting curriculum time is only going to exacerbate the issue. How are our children going to have good job prospects in the future having had a poorer standard of education than any other generation?!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agile learning is not meant as a way to save budget but to improve pupil outcomes. This is a miss selling of what is a beneficial approach. What will this look like in schools where staff are not up for this approach?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds like an utterly terrible idea to me. Our school week is already short, would be illegally short in our developed countries, and making it shorter would harm the education of our children. It takes time to consolidate the learning our young people are doing in Schools. I work at the University level where we expect our students to take information from one hour lectures and then spend several hours of personal work to consolidate the information however this is not appropriate at younger ages. This would increase the attainment gap between rich and poor households where the increased study at home available in some households will become increasingly valuable to young learners.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with the proposals to having children taught by anyone other than a trained teacher during the class teacher's agreed NCCT	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Agile learning is not an excuse for reduced teaching	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	In other words less class time and longer lunches - prioritising schools as child care not for education. This will damage children's prospects & limit the curriculum yet further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing the secondary school week can only be achieved by reducing the number of subjects studied by a learner in the senior phase. Fifty minutes equates to one period; delivering National courses for S4 in particular in the current time available is already a challenge, causing staff and learners stress. Reducing this further will have an adverse impact on health and wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The GTCS was established to ensure that the teaching workforce was of a high quality. Replacing fully trained and registered teachers with those who are not as part of the regular provision for learners will lead to a decline in standards and attainment.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This may not be best approach for every child and family	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't see how reducing time with with teachers will have anything other than a negative effect in pupil learning. Dies reducing teaching time mean the same curriculum being delivered in less time? If so this is more pressure on teachers and will affect quality of curriculum delivery.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would a councilor like to explain how the attainment gap will be bridged in many schools in West Lothian with lest teacher pupil contact time, ludicrous proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why in the name of God would you even consider reducing contact/learning time for pupils? Core fundamentals to be taught with face-to-face actions with the teacher is a must, no way should young people be put into this position. Furthermore, they missed enough during pandemic times and need further uplift to help bridge the gaps that still exist today.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No! No! No! 'Agile learning?!' Pah, more jargon. It doesn't even exist. You are fooling NO ONE. Do not reduce the school week. Our children are the future. Value education!!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am concerned about the children's 2.5 hours being unstructured play with no learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, a truly awful proposal which will negatively impact our young people and the education system.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, turning schools into glorified child-minding services. ; So to cut down on spending on teacher wages, ie teacher numbers in general, the plan is to cut the amount of education our young people are going to receive? ; ; "Alternative learning experiences" delivered by someone cheaper than a fully qualified teacher presumably. And will there be exams on these alternative experiences with a qualification at the end of them? ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Staff cuts dressed up as improving provision	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am so disgusted by this proposal! It is horrendous to suggest that our children should be sent to school and spend part of their learning time with someone other than a qualified teacher! We are so proud of our education system in Scotland, but this is a terrible proposal and suggests that the council views schools as a mere babysitting service! I spend some time teaching in England, and I was always so glad that Scotland did not allow non teacher to take lessons as they do there, the difference was very obvious and now I fear we are heading in the same direction. Our young people deserve an education system that is constantly striving for the best for each and every one of them and not one where the council, who is there to serve and provide for them, reduces their quality learning time with a professional qualified teacher to the minimum that they can get away with! There have already been cuts like this in nurseries where the need for a qualified teacher is no longer there. Our nursery is certainly the worse off for it. P1 and 2 are more play based and are and extension of 'Early years' does this mean that our teaching time in this area will be reduced?! My children deserve to have a professional teacher with them at all times throughout the day and I will not accept that a 'specialist' in a subject is as good as a teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing teacher to pupil time is an awful idea. This will affect how well the children learn. They already have to see real teachers a week and kids need consistency. Not scattered time with teachers. Stop cutting face to face time to provide other types of learning. Face to face teaching was massively missed during covid and has a massive impact on kids learning and confidence ! Do not cut face to face teaching time more than it already is !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am very concerned at the prospect of my children having less pupil/teacher contact time! If my children have less teacher contact time who will provide their education? Outside agencies who are not qualified teachers? Pupils already have extremely varied, valuable learning experiences provided by qualified teachers, this cannot and should not be replaced by outside agencies. My children are not in school for child care purposes, they are in school to be educated by qualified professional teachers. ; Schools have already cut back on providing quality music and art education in primary schools, we cannot take away any more quality learning from our children. This is not good enough, I am so disappointed in West Lothian Council that they would even consider our pupils being taught by under qualified individuals!!; ; In the secondary school pupils already only have a 30 minute lunch, how do you plan to reduce the school week by 50mins? Again very vague. Priorities are all wrong here. Our young people should be top priority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is shockingly worded. Pupils gain valuable learning experiences from curriculum experts and are able to build important relationships with other adults in the school. These are extremely valuable things, especially considering the pandemic's legacy on these kids.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you give the children less time with teachers is that not going to make more children struggle to pass exams?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	"Alternative learning experiences" needs to be specified. Again, losing more time with a teacher (trained professional) is detrimental to young people and would impact attainment in addition to teaching and learning. If "alternative learning experiences" are staffed by pupil support workers, this would be beyond their job description and their pay is already very low compared to their value. ; Furthermore, the curriculum as it stands, particularly within Social Subjects in Senior Phase at National 5/Higher level, is already challenging enough to fit within 1 year, let alone with a reduced school week. This would make delivering it more stressful and put more pressure on young people at a time they are facing a mental health crisis.; Additionally, the cut in hours likely have a significant impact on teacher workload. Workload is already a major stress for educators and impacts on their wellbeing and work/life balance as it is very difficult to get all planning, assessing and other tasks done in the current time. Reducing the hours would likely make this far worse, negatively impact staff wellbeing and could lead to a staff exodus or a stressed workforce, both of which would be extremely detrimental to young people, both in terms of their learning experience but also their attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Where is studies/evidence that agile learning improves attainment? If any evidence, has this been done over a broad range of authorities, a significant range of time and where is the proof from educational researchers? From my experience, agile learning is not a positive way to raise attainment. The school day should always be covered by fully qualified GTCS registered teachers. Alternative learning experiences should be provided as after school clubs, not as an alternative to qualified teachers. Alternative experiences are not lead by people who have a deep understanding of child development, additional support needs or understanding of the curriculum. Trying to cover all the curriculum in a shorter space of time for fully qualified teachers is impossible in an already packed curriculum. This idea seems very detrimental to the young people of West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I absolutely disagree with this strategy, more than anything I have ever heard. I do not send my children to school for child care, or to spend time with a pupil support worker or a sports leader, I send them to be taught, by teachers. I should say that I am not a teacher. I can't express how disappointed I am that this is being considered as a plausible option.; ; I DISAGREE WITH THIS STRATEGY; ; ABSOLUTELY NOT WORTH THE PROJECTED SAVING OF £2.4mil	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not acceptable, especially given the amount of time the children missed during covid. To then reduce the teacher/ student time is going to continue to impact on our future generation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I believe teacher/pupil contact time is vital to provide a good standard of quality learning and should not be reduced. Should it be the case that the reduced time will be delivered digitally then I strongly disagree with this. Classroom assistants play a vital part of the learning experience for children and would hope less classroom assistants won't be part of the planned savings. Children no matter what age do not need less learning time at school. I also believe that the number of holidays during a school term should be reduced more so now due to the amount of learning time lost during COVID.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why are you considering this?; This makes no sense what so ever. ; ; Staff have to be in the building for the same length of time for less pay. ; If you are reducing support staff too, then there will be more issues at break and lunchtimes.; You can't reduce teacher/pupil contact time, rely on support staff to mop this up if you then reduce the number of support staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any changes in this area should be proven to have no detrimental impact on pupils or should not go ahead. It's essential we give our children the best start in life and this should be a top priority for the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I disagree with this. Class sizes are too large and due to this there is little if no one-to-one time. Stop schools having to purchase via council suppliers when it is cheaper to buy off the likes of Amazon or Asda.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How can you have no difference in time kids are at school but save 50 mins per week; Think the kids need as much time with their teachers not less ; The past 2 years they've missed too much ; Along with there's a flurry of snow schools closed oh it's too hot so we close the school ; Won't happen in any other job and teachers get paid plenty	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Categorically no, so WLC proposes to reduce teacher-student contact! Who will fund these "alternative learning experiences"? Again, WLC is increasing the cost to parents by stealth.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This restructuring will mean not only the loss of further job opportunities for teachers, but, additionally, a significant impact on the curriculum for the young people in West Lothian, particularly in primary schools.; Currently the 2.5hrs between a class teacher's maximum contact time and the 25hr pupil week is 'covered' by another GTCS registered teacher, providing high quality teaching and learning experiences for the young people. Any move to remove these high quality experiences with a GTCS teacher are unacceptable.; This will have a significant impact on workload – requiring class teachers to 'squeeze' even more into their weekly timetable whilst still attempting to raise attainment – but also significantly reduce those high quality experiences with staff other than the main class teacher across the week.; ; Secondary schools would have their week reduced by 50 minutes.; The consultation does not make clear exactly what the proposals will mean or look like in practice. The aim to keep the school day the same length, but with 2.5hrs or 50mins less teaching time, per week, means that a number of conclusions can be drawn...and none would appear to be beneficial compared to the current model.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think this is a way of using less well-paid staff to be nothing more than babysitters. ; What alternative experiences are the children going to have? ; Children should be taught by qualified teachers for the entire school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Very concerned about what could realistically be offered during non-contact time in terms of continuity and alternative learning experiences in a cost saving culture. I am both a primary teacher and a parent and without further information on how this would work in practice I cannot see how it would benefit pupils.; Who would cover the 2.5 hours a week pupils are not with their teacher? Additional staff? Is there budget for this? Management? They already have a huge workload. I am not sure what types of activities could be offered to fill this time that are planned, high quality learning experiences. Also concerned about the impact on pupil behaviour if there are longer periods of the day they are without their class teacher. ; Given the recent loss of school time in the pandemic it is also worrying to hear that it is proposed to reduce the time each week pupils spend with a qualified teacher. ; Also the 2.5 hours non contact time a teacher gets each week are usually used to teach pupils PE and /or expressive arts, perhaps with a specialist. If this goes then how can class teachers realistically be expected to teach literacy, numeracy and all of these other areas thoroughly in 2.5 hours less a week?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as children are being taught by teachers - non-teachers delivering core curriculum is not acceptable for our children. It's hard enough to fit the curriculum into the 25 hours as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Losing qualified teaching staff is not acceptable. Children will not have the benefit of skilled teachers teaching them for all of their school day if 'alternative' are being brought in to cover	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children need to get taught by a qualified teacher and should have access to this through the whole school day. The 2.5 hours should be with a qualified teacher not wasted learning time. ; Secondary pupils need to have qualified teachers teaching them and to endure success need a full taught school week.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	West Lothian has prided itself in raising attainment within the authority. If West Lothian is still serious about doing this and creating the best educational outcomes for our children then reducing teacher contact time with our students is not the solution!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	We have a very full curriculum which cannot be squeezed into any shorter period of time than the current 25 hour school week. The pressure on teachers to deliver the curriculum in 22.5 hours would be immense. I object to this proposal on these grounds.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I categorically disagree with this. Relationships are essential in schools and many of our children would not cope nor manage with this "alternative learning". Additionally teachers are already struggling to provide high quality teaching and learning whilst covering the curriculums breadth, in depth - taking away learning time with a qualified, GTCs registered teachers is unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Do not agree with the agile learning approach and, from experience of children in schools with this approach, the attainment level is not increasing, nor are the learning experiences improved!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	against, teachers need non contact time to plan for their lessons, lunch and break times should not be used for planning as they are not paid for these.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would have thought that teacher/pupil contact time was of paramount importance and should be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why is teacher/pupil time being reducedkids need to be educated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is concerning that perhaps it would be putting money before education of our children and young adults.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Class teacher contact time is 22.5 hours per week but att primary aged children are currently entitled to 25 hours per week of teaching time. This is made up by using specialist teachers to give the children a rich and complete curriculum experience. Any reduction in this will result in West Lothian's children being severely disadvantaged to the total of at least 82 hours of education in a school year. This saving is not worth jeopardising our childrens' future for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduction of teacher/pupil time does not sound like a sensible approach, particularly where pupils from deprived areas or struggling pupils would be adversely affected. Don't know enough on whet experts say in this field but feels wrong.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Please don't reduce teacher time for children. Lots of children are still catching up post covid and lots of time out of formal education. Children need stability not more changes and less teacher time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If this means using pupil support and wrap around to basically turn schools into care facilities and erode the number of teachers then it sounds pretty awful. Our education system is supposed to be the envy of many countries. This isn't the way to be world class.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There is not enough teacher/pupil time as there is without making it shorter.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The reduced timetable would mean that teachers have less time to teach the enormous curriculum that is ever expanding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This again feels like a degradation of services so would want to know more	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There should be absolutely no reduction in the amount of teacher contact time. The standard of school education is woeful and to consider cutting this is unthinkable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Keep current arrangements	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Education is No 1 priority. The school day must not be restructured to reduce pupil/teacher contact time. Teach/yourself is not an appropriate suggestion especially for the less able who need more teacher support and direct supervision. Unless staff hours are reduced or staff sacked I cannot see how this will save money. More qualified staff are needed not fewer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Basically this statement means that the kids won't be educated at the same level for the same length of time as at present. Non teaching staff will be used to babysit kids till they've reached the required time which is wrong.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A number of long-term, broad ranging and peer reviewed research projects show that one of the single most effective ways of increasing a child's attainment is contact time with a highly trained and knowledgeable teachers. We are incredibly lucky to have trained highly effective specialist staff to teach children and deliver improved school attainment through an agile learning environment in West Lothian Council. If we reduce the amount of contact time with these teachers, by reducing contact time to 22.5 hours per week and replacing this with alternative learning experiences in the remainder of this time, we will undermine the foundations of the aforementioned improved attainment results and agile learning cultures.; ; These very same research projects show that very little emphasis should be placed on homework for attainment. Should the alternative learning experiences be supervised whilst children have the opportunity to complete tasks set for them this would be comparable to highly trained professionals being replaced with supervised homework, which is not an effective means for increasing children's attainment. ; ; Furthermore, reducing the employment of specialist teachers who currently teach the remainder of the school week will lead to a huge loss of knowledge, skills and expertise which West Lothian Council has already paid to develop, train and foster. Doing so will lead to short-term loss of these individuals and the value they add to teaching and learning and long-term need to re-train other individuals to fulfil these exact same roles.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I find this part terrible. Children need time with a qualified teacher, not less! It completely devalues teachers and basically makes out that we are merely babysitters. The impact of lockdown is real and they certainly don't need less time with a qualified teacher.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No this is a terrible idea. Kids are not sent to school to learn from robots or technology. This will create a massive emotional and social anxiety for them. I wouldn't leave my children at home without an adult so why would they then be left in an unattended classroom?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why are you changing their learning again! No stop! They have been through enough and need consistency and support not you taking their teachers away more!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils have lost enough time with most struggling to catch up after the pandemic and the council things cutting pupil/teacher contact is a good idea.....; As a parent of a struggling primary 4 pupil this is an absolutely ridiculous idea!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I feel my children's learning would be affected by removing teachers out of the class for even a short period of time!! Children need teachers to provide their learning opportunities which will be needed for their long term goals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No teacher contact time should not be reduced schools are actually in slightly less in a week compared to 30-40 years ago and there are more school holidays per year now than 30-40 years ago if alternative learning means again more technology then that is not the way pupils need the teacher human contact instead of the technology doing it all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing school hours is not productive for education.; Many parents cannot afford after school care, this would be a drain on already increasing family finances.; It will also most likely have a negative impact on the level of education for children, leaving them trailing behind peers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. No change to school hours is proposed due to the impact on working parents.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I send my children to school to be taught by a teacher - not a pupil support worker or coach.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would be against teacher pupil time being reduced. Being a parent helper in school that day goes so fast and trying to fit everything in is already a challenge. Some kids esp younger need time to work with teacher to learn, not put on a conveyor belt. Parents evening is example, 10mins is not always achievable to speak to class teacher esp if the teacher is new and has lists to say. I appreciate they have many pupils to get through but this doesn't always work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I have two children at secondary and regardless of whether the start and end times change, to lose 50 mins a week is a lot of teaching time over the course of terms, given the amount of hours they have lost over the period of the pandemic. Our children's education should be a priority and I don't feel that reducing teaching time should be considered at all, regardless of whether it is online with other local authorities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It's absolutely unacceptable to reduce any sort of teaching time from the current 25hr/week. Kids have missed great part of the last two years of pandemic and their education has suffered unchangeably. Pupils need quality learning time not a substitute of it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children already struggle with lack of continuity of teachers and the high number of 'cover' classes disrupts teacher contact time in high schools. I would not be in favour of a reduction	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No impact to start and end time for Secondary Schools so this would mean extended breaks and lunch? Don't think this needed they need all the support they can get and with Twilight classes and study time through holidays to attend the school for exams. They don't need time reducing with the teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The reduction of teacher/pupil time is not a good idea due to the time lost through the Pandemic. Children need additional support,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	For primary schools, reducing contact time is a terrible idea. We need our children to build strong and meaningful relationships with their teachers and this will reduce that.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is appalling. I have no issue in reducing the school week in terms of timing however reducing the amount of contact time with a teacher is a disgrace. This is going to further widen the attainment gap by the time children get to high school. Need to see transparency in what these other activities will be and how they will replace teaching. £2.4m savings here - take more from your management structure!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There should be Zero reduction to the amount of pupil to teacher contact time within the school.; We absolutely do not support this having had personal experience of the dreadful online schooling in the pandemic.; Our high school has already shortened it's day so kids leave school earlier than they used to. ; Teachers are paid to teach. Look for savings elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a terrible idea. Reducing the teacher pupil contact time only leaves the pupil at a disadvantage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If this does not impact the teaching hours provided to the pupils it can only be of benefit. ; Pupils have lost far to many teaching hours over the past few years that they surely should not be loosing any more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't seeing how reducing learning time or time with teachers is going to enhance a child's learning especially children that need extra support in learning and all ready struggle	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Leave school days s they are	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There is a lack of clarity about what the 'alternative experiences' would be in this statement. If it is anything other than GTCS registered teachers delivering quality educational experiences to our children, then I would view this as a mistake. Our primary school curriculum is still overcrowded and to deliver this in fewer hours would just be impossible. We require more teaching staff to deliver what is required, not fewer, in order to press ahead with delivering quality education for our young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No idea what this means as you have not actually said what you will do. Significant amount of jargon. Plain English required. ; ; I do not support any reductions to educational services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Completely disagree. The standard of education has fallen over the last few years and if this proposal is introduced it will only further suffer.; Surely education has to be the highest priority	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How will the attainment gap ever be closed? The best people qualified to teach children are teachers. Coverage of the curriculum is hard enough without reducing the hours children are in front on teachers further. ; School can be the only safe place for some children and young people, a place full of there trusted adults! Changing this could impact mental health, attendance and therefore attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children lost out on 2 years of vital education and evidently do not have the life skills required to flourish in society. Literacy and numeracy skills are in constant decline. Reducing teaching time in the school day when half the curriculum is made up of nonsense classes is a ridiculous notion and detrimental to our young people and does not set them up for real working life for which a normal working week is 40 hours compared to contact teaching time of 22.5 hours	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Leave it all alone. West Lothian saves money by having a half day on a Friday already. I remember when thus started, it was a half day Wednesday	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with this option at all. Pupils will have reduced contact time from qualified teachers, substituted with support staff for a fraction of the cost. I do not believe this is a valid option and feel the learning will not be of the same standard.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	NO!; Pupils don't see their teachers enough as it is. Teachers need support staff when required to allow teachers to teach without the interruption that children that challenge pose. ; Extend the school week to include a Friday afternoon.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher pupil time is very important. It shouldn't be reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think you've included a key point in your summary of this proposed change: "West Lothian has developed an agile learning culture and approach and delivered improved school attainment results and improved learning experiences for pupils" ... How do you expect us to continue to deliver improved attainment results and learning experiences for pupils with less resources? Value your staff and value your pupils - pupils also need relationships with trusted adults in order to thrive ... Cutting contact time, and therefore cutting staff, would have a significant negative impact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children have lost enough schooling through no fault of their own Why would anybody agree to loosing an hour a week for our children ; The teachers are going on strike for more money next week we presume the savings would be achieved by paying them less ; Again who is going to be taking these decisions. Hopefully the parents will be consulted	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a propped cut to education! Did the pandemic not demonstrate that proper teaching in schools is vital both for development of children's education and also social skills.; ; This proposal would have major detrimental impact on the development and well being of children in the future. If this goes ahead we will be failing future generations!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely disagree.The school is not a storage facility for kids when parents need to be at work. Children need to be provided with an appropriate curriculum and professional supervision throughout the entire school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This area definitely needs more investment rather the. Less as more teaching time for kids is better for future generations and this will also help working parents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not in favour of this one especially as more funding should be coming	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Similar to my comments about reduction in staff in schools (pupil support and offices) my biggest concern would be the impact on mental health and well-being. With the right initiatives this may improve but if a reduction in teacher pupil contact time means an increase in technology led learning / self directed learning then other provisions must be in place to support this. Teenagers are already struggling post pandemic, I fear in our school anyway far too much time is offered to pupils to use their smartphones, my son tells me it's actively encouraged by some teachers. Where does the 50 minute school week time go then with no change to start and end time? Longer breaks and lunch I assume? Or a period for something completely different and creative from what we have today?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If the part of the services cut means take the essential classes from the children such as Physical education and Music- it may lead to have a big impact on the child's well being. To provide physical education is essential part of the child's education where can have an access to physical movement what some children probably not have any other time. Nowadays the children are at home and most of their time spend on the internet or television.; Therefore this is more than important to provide this at school. The same with music some of the children may not ever to have an access to learn on the musical instruments or learn to sing and participate in the social activities provided by school where they can show they're new skills. And I can keep adding more reasons if you want.; ; Well, I really don't like the idea of reducing the contact time with the teacher ,where is the overall point for that?; It means the children will have the shorter time for learning so they will spend the same amount of time at school but without learning?; That's sound like the children will be just somewhere around the school for 50 minutes and do nothing.; Does it sound right to you???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Taking away from children yet again! Why are you targeting the vulnerable?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not approve of 50 minutes less teaching time. ; ; I do not approve of the removal of non contact time for primary teachers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely no! My son only goes to school because he receives help with his writing and reading. He is growing up in a European family and we struggle to teach him in English the way school expect us to do, if he doesn't receive support from his support worker he refuses to go to school. Kids need help, and more time with teachers as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I find this suggestion perposterous - to simply reduce the amount of teaching being done!? I am strongly concerned that reducing the amount of teaching time will have a significantly detrimental effect on both teaching and learning. The priorities of this suggestion seem entirely wrong!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher/pupil time needs to be maintained so the education of children will surely help them obtain as good grades as they possibly can .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree. Teachers need to teach - time spent in school with no teacher is a waste of time. Would teachers take a pay cut if they are teaching less? Thought not!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As per our answer to 1D, it is vital that the current level of teacher/pupil contact - and also the length of the school week - are not reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. No change to the length of the school week is proposed.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Absolutely not there is already too much change in a school day ; Kids need consistency ; What's wrong with one teacher all day Monday to friend ; I'm totally against this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As previous response this is likely to negatively impact students particularly at younger ages. Improving teacher to student support should be the target and not reducing quality of the learning experience.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I find this statement confusing, 're-align the primary school day', how? Teachers time spent with children is already not enough, I fail to see how attainment levels can be maintained or improved upon if teaching time is reduced. Yes, children need to have additional experiences but what would those be? Mental health of children also needs to be taken into consideration, the past two years has taken it's toll on so many young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing contact time is not an area where savings should be made. Contact time should be increased to support children learning. The length of school day should be reviewed to make it more friendly to working families, the early finish on Fridays is not helpful for working parents and limits many from being able to work more and contribute to local economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a ridiculous suggestion given the amount of educational learning school children have missed out on over the school closures during the pandemic. ; Secondary school children especially need their current teaching time maintained or i would worry about the impact on secondary school pupils exam grade attainment. ; School teaching time should be protected and this is a ridiculous suggestion for cost saving.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Kids need more teacher contact time and more support in education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Completely against this proposal. Limiting teacher contact te would reduce attainment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Under no circumstances should teaching time be reduced, The saving you propose to make here need to be found else where, education is key and is especially vital in poorer areas. Cutting funding to education is a big no.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Utterly shameful and MUST NOT proceed. Cutting during a time of raising attainment and following years of pandemic disruption. And what will replace these 2.5 hours? Probably more playtime because there simply isn't the staffing to provide "alternative learning experiences" because, funilly enough, those staff are called TEACHERS!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No cuts, children need people to teach them not more IT	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is not clear how reducing the school day (but also not reducing the school day!) is going to achieve savings? What is an 'alternative learning experience'? It is very sad to see that a huge chunk of savings is going to be made by targeting schools and education when they are already stretched beyond being able to function properly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Think it's poor after a pandemic that you chose to target the youngest people in our community who have suffered the most by reducing their learning time. Teaching on line is a poor substitute for actual face to face learning which these children will carry the effects of with them for years to come I wholly don't agree with this as they are losing out on valuable teaching time over the whole year allowing them to reach their potential and flourish	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This proposal undervalues the importance of our children's learning opportunities and experiences. My 8 year old son is shy. He is in a noisy classroom of 30 children. When he needs help from the teacher he becomes anxious and can't get his words out. His teacher is juggling a great deal and doing her best. Cutting down on teacher contact will further reduce the opportunities for children to engage with their teachers. This is not a proposal that the council should pursue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am concerned that reducing the amount of teaching time will have a detrimental effect on teaching and learning. Altering the finely balanced timetable will not be straightforward at Linlithgow Academy, where there is no straightforward option of removing registration periods (there are none). It is not clear how this alteration would result in such a significant saving. If the day does get reduced in this way it would be important to determine whether the extra 10 minutes per day are added to a break time, or through altering the start or end time. Linlithgow Academy is extremely full and reports from students make us aware that break times are crowded and can be difficult for young people: increasing the unstructured time at school may not best serve them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not agree with this as you are again reducing the actual teacher to pupil time and this is very important. I agree technology had a great part to play in education now but contact time with the children is so important. Children are different and a one fits all approach will not work, it has to be adaptable to fit the needs of the child.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils need more time with teachers not less. This is a terrible idea and children will only suffer from it. What are the alternative learning experiences... Too little information and deliberately vague. More funding is needed not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is absolutely ridiculous! Cutting class contact time will have a detrimental impact on young people. Children require more pastoral care not less. Many young people are suffering poor mental health and well-being and require more support not less. This will do nothing to eliminate the attainment gap	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't even know what to say...teachers are teaching pupils who want to study if there is problem with a child, and he can just leave the class and wonder around the school, no one cares and parents just receives a message. Children got more rights than adults and it is worrying part	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No, this in no way benefits pupils or their learning. Funding gaps should not be met by reducing our children's opportunities and educational provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is. It clear exactly what this proposal specifically entails and what the impact would be on children and teaching staff. Teachers are under far too much pressure, they are exhausted and their time to prepare for and educate children should not be impacted. Our children are our future and the need the time space, commuted teaching and support staff and resources to maximise their learning. No cuts to education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is unclear what this proposal means. If it means an extra 10 minutes of break some pupils may like that. However, we do not think it is good for several reasons. Adults complain that there was not enough face-to-face time between teachers and pupils but now you are saying it is ok to have less of this. The time lost from teaching will also likely get added on as homework. Some pupils do not manage homework as well as they do class time so this will not benefit them (the opposite). It is already harder for S5/S6 pupils to get face time with teachers and this could make that worse. If this all means that the teaching time is more rushed, then that will not be good for teachers or pupils. Also, some young people have a set routine, especially children with autism and this may disrupt their routines. (provided by Vennie Youth Forum of 10 young people between 10-15 years old, with their consent).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Sounds like more time filling with reduced learning opportunities being guided by professional staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Do not agree with restructuring school day. As a retired teacher I do not agree with restructuring the school day in primary or secondary which would reduce pupil contact with teacher on school hours. We are going down the league tables in national educational achievement France for example have longer school days than we have ..	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I simply cannot understand this proposal. How can cutting teacher contact time save money (WLC don't set teacher salaries), so unless the proposal is to lose teachers, this makes no sense.; And cutting the number of teaching staff at a time when young people need greater support than ever is very difficult to accept.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't agree with teacher hours being reduced. because kids need face to face teaching from trained staff. not class assistants or computers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Do not have children of school age but if I had I would like more details of specifics before commenting if I would be happy or not.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Does reducing teacher contact time work for the most vulnerable children or do they need to increase or have a different learning blend?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The proposal would apply to all children, but the significant additional support provided to some pupils with additional support needs or to address socio-economic disadvantage would remain.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Why do West Lothian Schools finish at 12 noon on Fridays? No other local authority is Scotland allows this to happen.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council is not the only council to operate an asymmetric week.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	What would the alternative learning experiences be? Would they not need to be supervised in some way? So, you have to employ more support staff? If you reduce the school week by 50 mins then at some point someone is going to suggest a further change to the start time and end time or the pupils are just going to disappear anyway.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The need for alternative supervision will be factored into the projected savings.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	This is news to me as a primary teacher - were we going to be informed/consulted?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The respondent acknowledges that they have now been informed and consulted along with all other residents of West Lothian and employees of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I am a little confused at how this plan would work. As long as teachers are still able to get non-class contact time for planning and children's overall access to learning isn't impacted then I support the school week being reduced but I don't understand how this will be implemented in the primary school.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals, which will address these points.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	What will the changes mean? What will be lost in the 50 minutes secondary school time a day? What are the "alternative learning experiences", and who is delivering them?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals, which will address these points.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I don't understand where the savings would be made? sounds like replacing time with teachers with time with support staff.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I'd be interested in more information on this. How do you reduce school week by 50 minutes but not change start and end times. That is a whole period of learning lost at secondary school.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	How would you reduce the secondary school week by 50 minutes without changing the start/end times of the school day? Which subject would see the time allocated to it reduced to accommodate this? Would this change lead to an extra 50 minutes PPA for secondary teachers?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Pupils can benefit from activities and learning not involving direct hands on supervision by a teacher.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	It isn't clear what you are suggesting here so impossible to support or oppose.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	If teacher contact time is reduced but the school day remains the same, who is going to be looking after the children and what will they be doing?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals, which will address these points.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Given the proposed cut to contact time by one hour which will hopefully be signed off by the teaching unions and COSLA as a whole there doesn't seem to be a need to rush this proposal as it will need to be revisited . Where will the extra time come from? Will this impact on the lunches of staff and students	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	It would be very interesting to see what these models would look like before commenting. I have concerns about quality of learning by non teaching staff; specialist staff who are on permanent contracts; the impact on learning and attainment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Obviously you need to follow contractual guidelines for teachers, but your description of what you intend to do is vague.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	A lot more detail is required on current and proposed teacher working to understand what is implied here.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	"This would result in teacher/pupil contact time being reduced but with no change to the length of the overall school day" So, pupil centred learning ie let them teach themselves?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	How does this save money if the day is the same length?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	It impacts on the totality of staff required across the week.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Would standards remain the same?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I would need further information, but it sound like the kids would have 50mins with no great benefit to them.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Would be interested to see how this would work - currently not enough information supplied to make comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Don't know enough to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is very unclear what will be happening in these times of non contact time therefore I can't comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is important to ensure that the youth in our community are able to access learning and are encouraged to learn and have experiences in school. If there is no reduction in the school day time, how are the savings achieved? Is the number of teachers reduced or how is this worked out.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Will this result in increased Childcare costs for working parents? If teacher contact remains the same in theory there is no issue. Concerned that other aspects of learning in the school environment may be impacted. What are "alternative learning experiences"? My child is already involved in a number of extracurriculars that provide alternatives to academic learning.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	My children only get 30 mins lunch time as it is so I hope you do not intend to cut their recreation and lunch time to reduce the school week by 50 mins. Reduce the school week by 50 mins but no change to the start or end times of the day? So reduce it for the teachers seeing as there's less pupils/teacher time but not for the pupils? I'm confused as to how you do this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am unsure as to what pupils would be doing during this additional time with no teacher contact.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What will happen to pupils during this reduced contact time? Teachers should be given this extra time but there are massive concerns about what will happen to pupils. There is already so much of the curriculum to cover what are the extra curricular activities? Are they appropriate?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would provide the extra "childcare" with this saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm. It sure what the alternative learning experiences would consist of? I would need more information...	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't fully understand this juggling!!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How would this look in practice? Would the period lengths be reduced in classes? Time is already very tight to deliver courses and reducing the time further would have an adverse impact. I would want more information on how this would actually be implemented and the implications of doing so.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How can this save money. You would need to bring in and pay extetnal providers. Plugging the time gap....? The above does not outline ptoerly how this saves money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds good in principal but hard to comment on without more information	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Surely cutting teacher/pupil contact time would be detrimental to attainment outcomes?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would need more detail to comment and as this is my last year with a child in a West Lothian School I will leave this for others.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Depends what the alternative learning is?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More information required however. If it is suggested that children learn from home then this is unacceptable.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There is a danger that we will try to squeeze too much in on a school day. How will the teacher get there non contact time of there are no staff to cover this!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How are you going to ensure pupil safety if there is less teacher contact? Who will be supervising when teachers are not available? Volunteers or charities?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Will this affect the current curriculum for children, given that there is a plan to reduce teacher contact time?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Could only comment if I knew what the 'experiences' were	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	For secondary schools this would surely result in costly staffing requirements.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What impact is this going to have on staff? What are pupils going to do in that extra 50mins within school? I don't see how this can work without causing an even higher workload for staff and more long term absence due to stress!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Neutral; This may be a positive change but there would need to be some form of incentive or programme for healthy or well-being activities to take place during the additional free time during the school day.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure - concern about children who are struggling and will they cope with the alternative learning experiences where teacher time is less	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I cannot see how this would help.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would result in teacher/pupil contact time being reduced but with no change to the length of the overall school day.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There is no explanation as to how this day would look and how WL will manage to keep the school hours the same each day. This does not add up.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The 'alternative learning experiences' need to be spelt out as its very difficult to comment on this without concrete examples of what this phrase means. For example, does this mean break times, for example are made longer? What impact this has on school staffing needs to be spelt out as clearly to save £2.4 million would require staff resource to be cut. Does this mean reducing support staff and again increasing class sizes?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Are you meaning that there will be more non-contact time to Teachers, which is desperately needed.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How do teachers feel about this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure what this means - what do you mean by "alternative learning experiences"?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Please provide more detailed information on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Where would this leave parents to pay for sitters etc ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What are the proposed alternative learning opportunities and who would deliver them?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm not quite understanding what this means. I'm thinking that to do this there would be additional time added on to the Childrens' breaks, additional free study time, activities provided by Pupil Support Workers as opposed to qualified Teaching staff etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'd like to know more details so that I could properly give an opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So a cut to teaching and support staff?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Does this mean teachers getting less money and time being allocated to support staff? Not sure how this works/ saves £2.4 m	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So, less teaching time?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What's an agile learning culture? How can there be no change to the overall school day on one hand but then the school week is reduced by 50 minutes on the other?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure how this would be done? More time with psws? Would really need more info on how this would be achieved. Focus should be put on providing high quality teaching for kids, our children have suffered so much during the pandemic we cannot seriously make any cuts which would affect them more.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not clear how this improves education?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This would mean reducing the subjects taught or length of time taught. Computer learning is useful but only in conjunction with teachers to support.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	will more after school activities be required for any pupils?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	this is not clearly communicated what are the changes for the school day, exactly?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If teacher contact time is reduced but the length of the school day is not reduced who is going to be working with our children when teacher is not with them?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Further detail required on how restructuring of the school day would realise the projected saving.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	alternative learning experiences? What are these, if not supervised then children could be doing whatever they like, effectively transforming school in to an after school club.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to ensuring an appropriately qualified workforce to provide appropriate learning experiences, meeting the needs of all learners
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	My understanding of this is that teachers hours will be reduced.....is this because schools are still struggling to find, and in some cases, retain staff? So teachers would still work full time but rotate their classes?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There needs to be more information regarding the intention to fill this time where children would not have teacher contact, there should still be opportunity in those times for learning, particularly life skills, STEM, mental health and wellbeing which at the moment seems undervalued within education in primary schools. Local organisations could offer these however there needs to be funding for this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not too sure about this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What does this actually mean? Please provide more concrete examples - true agenda seems hidden here.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	unsure as said previously west Lothians education strategy for those requiring additional support needs from nursery upwards is very poor already. this would depend on what is put in its place	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduce school time, is this break times?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	does not affect no i have no kids	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would provide the alternative learning experiences? More information would be needed about this and the associated staffing, costs etc	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So what are the children and teachers be doing in this time? Are the teachers working less time so get paid less?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What affect will this have on pupils, will teachers' pay be cut to align with this, there is already a shortage of teachers will this increase classroom sizes.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More specific details needed for this consultation to be meaningful	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What would this mean for standard times for teaching curriculum for subjects? What will fill these 50 minutes?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not at all clear how this proposal saves £2.4 million. Can the savings be broken down and illustrated?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is important to ensure that teachers are not swamped with admin, marking etc to ensure pupil contact time is effective and their at home time is not stolen	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, I am unsure how this benefits anyone.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Based on what I have heard, there is also a growing gap on pupil capabilities coming out of primary schooling too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	sorry, don't know what it is you're suggesting here - less school time with teachers but no change in the length of school day? How is that beneficial to the pupils who are still struggling to get over the gaps due to covid, lockdown etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is all very well but have you considered the parents who work. Will this mean them having to find childcare to accommodate what you are setting out.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	how are people suppose sto work if you cut school time and the primary kids dont get enough time with teachers as it is.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Where does the saving come from - staff? Consider impact on attainment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would then be responsible for children during the 'remainder of the time'? Are Pupil Support Workers going to be asked to do this?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So exactly how would a day or week be structured? Of time away from a teacher is cut, does that mean that a computer is teaching our children the rest of the time?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, with no detail on what this would look like and what the alternative would be it's incredibly hard to comment. Who would prepare the alternative learning? Are we proposing to cut teacher hours?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What is the primary school teaching time? It doesn't specify?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure how reducing teacher contact will benefit pupils or save money if the pupils are still in school for the same amount of hours	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If there is a saving here how is that possible? Too little detail here. Does that mean children will be left with unqualified people for some of the time? This would not aid education. Any change to school hours would be detrimental to working parents.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Are school hours changing? This would be very difficult for working parents.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It's not been made clear how reducing the school week will save £2.4 million?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	We would need more information on what this would look like practically for teachers and learners.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Having subject expertise in areas such as PE, music, arts, languages, science etc. is crucial in providing quality breadth for pupils. How would shortfall of time be utilised/staffed?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, don't know what that means - alternative learning experiences for the rest of the time. So they will be taught less, but be in school the same amount of time - how do you save £2.4 million doing that?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not enough information given here yet again. School clubs? Money?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	in my opinion, I would have concerns regard this. I am concerned 'alternative learning experiences' sounds like the same hours but a reduction to the curriculum on offer and education? Who would cover this? What would this 'learning' look like? What quality of 'care' would the children receive? Would this time be covered within the same child staff ratio's? Etc, etc, etc	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, I would like more information around this. Whilst I am a big supporter of WLC having an agile learning culture I do believe this needs more work in order for it to be embedded and for staff to have a clear understanding of what this means. At present, the 2 1/2 hrs NCCT includes a delivery of the school curriculum. Will teachers be expected to cram more into an already jam packed timetable? I am very supportive of children receiving learning experiences from a wide range of people/businesses/organisations but I do worry about the expectations for teachers. Our children and young people deserve the very best opportunities both inside and outside of school and I'd like to know more about what WILL be offered to support them.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher contact time is already being discussed by EIS unions, so is this on top of that? Many schools already cannot provide the staffing as it is to maintain non class contact time of 2.5 hours.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The schools work a 25 hours working week and the teachers work a 22.5 hour, who is fully qualified/insured to cover the the last 2.6 hours of teaching.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unsure how this would be achieved	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm unsure of what the children would be doing in the non contact time if start and end times were to stay the same? Who would be supporting this?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	You do not give details of how you would achieve this. I assume you are talking about bringing outside providers in to do such things as sport, expressive arts, cookery etc similar to the Welsh trial?? That does sound like a good idea but how will this save money? By getting rid of teachers currently covering non class contact time? Who would take responsibility for the children whilst in school? I am concerned that unqualified adults would be used fill the gap in order to save money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't understand how the school week can be reduced by 50 minutes without changing start and finish time. More detail is required in order to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Does reducing the school hours, reduce opportunities for pupils? It seems to me that there will be less teaching time so less opportunity for pupils to be supported by staff. How will the secondary school day be reduced by 59 minutes but no change to start and end times? This reduction is not in alignment with other authorities as end times have been altered but teachers still have same commitment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again not quite sure what this means. Does this mean more outdoor learning / forest schools / bringing in external people (specialist) to work on skills...such as languages, computing, cooking? How is it possible to remove 50 minutes from the secondary week without impacting on start/end times? Does that mean extending the morning break by 10 minutes each day?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would that mean that the current Friday afternoons for staff to use for their marking and planning is going to go? I support agile learning but feel there needs to be more time for staff to train to effectively use new technology. Some of the above seems quite vague, as a Teacher I would like more detail.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Where is this agile learning approach documented and what does it mean? Where is the evidence of the improved school attainment results directly linked to the agile learning culture and approach? My understanding is that every child in Scotland is entitled to 25 hours of quality education per week, from a qualified teacher. Whilst the maximum time that any one teacher will be with a class in a week is 22.5 hours, the additional 2.5 hours is made up by another qualified teacher providing quality educational experiences. There is no detail provided above with regards to how children would access alternative learning experiences, who would provide these and what these would be. The children would still require to be supervised, presumably on school grounds/under the responsibility of the school management - does this mean that other adults who are not qualified to teach would be given responsibility for classes of children, who have diverse needs? Is the saving estimated based on reduction of teacher headcount - but presumably the adults taking responsibility for the children for the 2.5 hours would need to be paid? I believe this is ill thought through and has the potential to be fundamentally flawed, with children in West Lothian being used as guinea pigs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would need to more about this and how it would impact both staff and learners. Who would cover the RCCT time that is currently covered by a qualified teacher? What would this time be used for?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How would this be organised without teachers having to plan for classes during RCCT????	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is vague. What exactly will fill this time and who is responsible for finding these alternative experiences? Would this cause a lesser quality of learning time for students in senior school and children with ASN.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is important to review what the students will do during the remainder of the time of the school day. It is important to make sure the time is productively utilised for learning and development activities and not just occupy them to elapse time.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	You need to provide more information about this. What sort of alternative learning experiences are you referring to? It's difficult to understand how reducing teaching time would be beneficial for pupils.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How would this look?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't and can't have children so i don't feel it's fair for me to comment on this question.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, an ambiguous statement! A reduction in teacher time cannot surely be a good thing	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	no involvement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would be interested to know what an "agile learning culture" actually is as it appears somewhat oxymoronic.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	no comment on this- as above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As 1D	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Wow	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Hearing of cuts isn't helpful.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not work in a school	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More information is required as to how this will be achieved	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'd suggest lengthening the school day with longer breaks, or shortening the school day with earlier start times and/or later finishing times to reduce the cost of energy used in the schools.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How will these other hours with no teacher be staffed, ensuring appropriate child/adult ratio, what will the children do in this time? I think this needs to be explained more clearly to parents how you intend this to work and the impact of our childrens school day/learning opportunities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The problem with this is people need to work or provide childcare. Further impacting cost of living issues	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How would the "alternative learning experiences" be staffed?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who will be responsible for the children for the other 2.5hrs they are in school? Will it be pupil support workers? Will their wages be increased to reflect this? Will teachers still be expected to plan lessons for this time for someone else to deliver? From my perspective as a teacher in schools, pupils will loose out on learning even if teachers do leave planned lessons as pupils are very aware of who is a teacher and who is a PSW and show a lack of respect for PSW's and consequently would be less likely to participate in any lessons.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Alternative learning and activities sounds good but what would they actually be in Practice?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Could this approach cause problems with the parents availability to work and be able to afford additional childcare?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Pupils in secondary are often covered for a class without a specialist. They need to be taught and not just babysat. There needs to be better control over this so that classes have continuity and lessons are meaningful for the subject. For example I know 3 teachers in one subject were on non contact period but as the 4th teacher in that subject was off sick the class was covered by a teacher from another subject area. Totally outrageous when specialists were available.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Need more information on what this means in practice. It is unclear.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Need further detail on this what would it mean ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Please give more information on what this means for school staff and pupils. How will the full curriculum be delivered if class contact time is reduced further.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Structure and certainty make children feel safe too. We need to be very careful not to take away this safety, especially after the impact of covid which many children have not recovered from.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	At what cost is the alternative learning experiences and what do these cover? How will you ensure it is beneficial not detrimental to learning?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If this went ahead, what would it mean? More details needed before asking us to comment!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is very unclear. If teacher contact time is 22.5 hours, what do you mean by realigning the primary school day? Are primary schools more than this? If so, is 22.5 just for secondary? But presumably not since you then say that the proposal would reduce secondary by 50 minutes.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Jdhd	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Big save	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	See above, it'll pay for itself.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	no views on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Detail required	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't understand what you are proposing here.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This has no impact on me so I will refrain from commenting	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not enough information to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't have children of school age so I cannot comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What are "alternative learning experiences" again not enough context	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not clear what this means in practical terms	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As before you must outline your detailed proposals	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	"alternative learning experiences" I wonder if these are in the school place or will become the parents responsibility. Reducing teacher time increases vulnerability of minors.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who will provide the child care when teachers are not there?; If Pupil Support Workers will they be paid more to reflect their additional responsibilities?; Will the curriculum expectations be reduced?; Will children be watching remote lessons for some of their learning? By agile learning do you mean changing plans as we go along because the class needs to evacuate the classroom in a hurry while another child is calmed down?;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comments.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If the current contact time is 22.5 hours and the day is re-aligned to match this time, why will this result in pupil contact time being reduced?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Additional contact hours are provided by additional teachers employed for this purpose.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What are the alternative learning experience and why do they not require teacher contact time? Where are the funds for the experiences?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If school week is reduced by 50 minutes per week, how will this work in practice? Why not just let pupils finish early, say, 1 day per week, as other authorities already operate this model, with many secondary's finishing eg, 230 pm on certain days. What is the point in reducing teaching time by 50 minutes per week and pupils being in school - doing what? What subject would be lost out on by this new model?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Blended learning? Is ensuring all pupils can learn from home / without teachers for short times more affordable? Head teachers and teachers should be consulted before a decision is made.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The consultation is open to teachers and headteachers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Longer periods within a class – only seeing a teacher 2/3 times a week longer more efficient teaching time due to the longer time with teachers	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More efficient online learning and schools should produce a strategy to set minimum standards and expectations. If start and end of day stay the same how will the reduction of 50 minutes affect our learning? Will it significantly affect learning to a point that we will notice so maybe ok	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Impacts people in different ways. Lack of teachers leads to more home learning – some may not have facilities to undertake the non-teaching time	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Potential for students to apply for home learning or a mixture of in and at home to ensure it is suitable for them? Could reduce the number of classes in school (while still spending the majority of their time in school)	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am both a teacher and a parent in West Lothian and I have no idea how agile learning has improved learning experiences in the two schools I am involved in. I think we need more information on this. Reducing the school day in secondary schools raises issues of supervision for students for those 50 minutes - it can't be taken from promoted staff management time as they are already completely over stretched. There is also the issue that the Scottish Government has committed to giving teachers an extra 90 minutes preparation time each week which needs to be factored into budgets - WLC already does not provide ICT to students unlike many other local authorities, they can't be the council that doesn't provide those 90 minutes too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again not sure how you can save so much money doing this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again the government/ councils says education and raising attainment is a priority so how does reducing teacher/pupil contact time support this?? What exactly is the proposal for the rest of the time? Longer breaks? A whole school DVD once a week? Who will supervise the pupils for this 'alternative learning experience'? Why bother keeping the school day the same length if it's not quality time with a teacher?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Alternative learning experiences can also contribute to raising attainment and achievement.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again it is difficult to understand exactly what this entails, and I would be more concerned as to what those who do understand it think eg teachers. I cannot understand how 'realigning the primary school day to match teacher contact time' goes hand in hand with teacher/pupil contact time being reduced?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Which areas of the curriculum are going to be dropped to allow everything to be covered properly in 22.5 hours per week? At the moment the curriculum is broadly balanced at 25 hours but if there are non-teaching staff 'supervising' pupils for 2.5 hours per week, what will they be doing? Will subjects like art, music, drama and science be delivered by unqualified adults?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Alternative learning experiences can also contribute to raising attainment and achievement.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How would this be delivered? Reduce pupil/teacher time but keep school day the same length - extra breaks - therefore supervision required but with less support staff?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would be interested to see how alternative learning experiences could be provided without third party providers (as per the earlier suggestion of reduction). Appreciate that this would remove staffing pressure to cover classes though.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What impact would reduced teacher / pupil contact time have on educational attainment?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Alternative learning experiences can also contribute to raising attainment and achievement.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am unsure how this would lead to savings.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, 'in line with other local authorities'. Realigning the school day. I feel that school education needs to be monitored for effectiveness, not necessarily testing results but perhaps teacher commentary and feedback.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not my problem , you do need to keep community centers and after school programmes for kids to avoid neighbour hood issues in bad areas with low social econonic and hisotocal council behaviours	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who is going to staff this and plan for it?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What about working parents?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. School start and finish times will not change so there will be no impact on childcare.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How does this save £2.4 million? The buildings will still be open. Does it mean that people will be employed who are cheaper than teachers to cover the extra supervision for primary? Secondary- longer lunch? Unpaid supervision? More unpaid supported study?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Is this really feasible??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How do you reduce the school week by 50 mins but the length of the school day would not change?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What is the definition of "alternative learning experiences"? The majority of school children require guidance and learning supervision otherwise they find other, less productive, things to do themselves particularly with tech devices.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I dont understand how teacher/pupil contact time at secondary could be reduced without changing the school start/finish time. Do you mean longer break and/or lunch? From what I hear from children, these times are already very busy and congested and are, for many children, a time of stress; the pupil leadership team working to set up lunchtime clubs to help ease the pressure! Registration period at Linlithgow Academy has already been removed to free up teaching time, which would indicate to me that those extra teaching minutes are needed. My boys regularly say that they run out of time in class to finish eg watching a video/programme, cooking, experiments.....	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am not sure how this will provide continuity as children will still have 2.5 hours contact with an adult who is not their teacher. If this continuity refers to the same teacher teaching all curricular areas, how will all curricular areas be covered with less time to do so in an already jam-packed school week. Job share teachers successfully provide continuity for their classes, as do cover teachers, so I disagree with continuity even being an issue. Any alternative learning opportunities need to be robustly planned and prepared to ensure curricular links and learning opportunities and experiences so that more work is not piled on teachers who will feel the need to compensate for any shortfall.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who is going to provide these experiences? Teachers are already covering an enormous curriculum with huge workload. How is this going to be effective for staff?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would this type of change really save money?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Surely the reduction of the school week by 50 minutes would have a curricular impact. How would this be accommodated/ managed?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What will happen for the remaining 2.5 hours of the day and who will plan for that?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Very difficult to comment as I do not have children in school or personally know children in West Lothian Schools. However I personally think the teacher contact time is incredibly important and with young people having missed out on that during COVID I think it is actually even more important. Would need to know what alternative learning experiences means to know if would be beneficial over teacher contact time.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So much of the school day/teaching time is already wasted. Registration, getting ready for break, snack in class room getting read for lunch, getting ready for home time = approximately 1 hour. This does not include class getting interrupted by childrens dis regulation / behaviour. What is this 'alternative' learning that you intend to offer and who provides it?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who is going to be offering the alternative teaching experience if you've sacked all the pupil support workers?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Being able to care for e kids without worry and stress especially at school	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What would these alternative learning experiences be? Who would be providing these? Does this then mean teachers are losing non class contact time which is for marking, planning and preparation of lessons. When would all of that take place?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time. No change to teacher non-contact time is proposed.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who will look after the children if the teacher is not there?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other suitable qualified staff can provide alternative education experiences.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure; About this as I have a daughter with additional learning needs and she needs as much time with an actual teacher / pupil support as she can get . However I'm not a teacher so I am; Confident that the council would be doing what is best for pupils	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More learning videos and books share to kids ; Group activities for kids	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would need assurances that the alternative learning experiences are of a high quality to benefit children's learning.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Please provide an explanation as to what the alternative learning experience will consist of and how will this not affect our children's learning experience minus the interaction of a qualified teacher ? Again every alteration is about saving money but again the council increased council tax by over 4% for the financial year 20/21 again I ask how much was raised through these tax increases and where has those funds been allocated ? As these increases should not lead to a reduction in services and technological cost cutting alternative teaching methods.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Where is the empirical research to back up what you are saying about 'improved attainment results through agile learning?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Interesting although that is 50mins of school lost per week which adds up.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Thankfully I don't have children so I have no first-hand knowledge of education system or youth services I do not feel I can comment on the proposal for those.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What happens to the children who need specialized teaching? Would the non - contact time be used for them?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	who will be supervising the children when the teachers are not?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can provide alternative learning experiences.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	who will be supervising children when not teachers?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can provide alternative learning experiences.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	it depends on what the alternative learning was	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	it depends on what the learning experience is	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	What does this actually look like for pupils, staff and parents? Maybe need to address overcrowding in secondary schools - lack of staff, several times daughter has had no teacher. Two new high schools significantly under occupied - re look at year groups and get more pupils in = less need for the provision of school transport which is also a huge problem right now.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council's ability to fill schools equally is constrained by parental choice legislation, and space has to be provided for future larger year groups in new schools.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I do think 1:1 support is important for children who may not have the support and structure at home to support more flexible learning,	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal seeks to balance 1 to 1 support with other learning of other important life skills such as independent learning.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Continuity is important for the childrens learning this creates positivity and confidence in the classroom	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	barely none will use the time for alternative learning experiences, and since aaron swartz was killed before he could enact his dream of free learning materials for all database. where they going to learn and get the materials to study ?!	4. The council is already doing this.	Local and national leaning materials are available.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Make sure you take account of and mitigate any impacts on working parents, for example you may save money saving here, but have to provide additional pre/ afterschool care	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal need not affect the length of the school day.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Parents would need to be consulted	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers still need non contact time for planning.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	"West Lothian has developed an agile learning culture and approach and delivered improved school attainment results and improved learning experiences for pupils." Based on what evidence?;	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Improving school attainment results is not as important as improving individual pupil attainments. Having a low school attainment result is not the same as pupils receiving a low attainment, as this will affect their whole life rather than just some league table that any sensible person would ignore. Working with teachers, and allowing flexibility of the profession to provide excellent learning experience, will pay back more in dividends than savings made.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Is West Lothian liaising with others authorities to share its best practice "agile learning culture" which it has developed, and to learn from them about the improvements they have been developing in their areas, such that different authorities are not spending money on solving problems which have already been dealt with on someone else's money?; Who is saying that "the learning experience for pupils has been improved"? What is your evidence?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The needs of children should always be prioritised.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Perhaps I don't understand what you are saying here but this is my perspective. Have you really improved school attainment results? If you are including the Covid years then this is easy to say as grades were clearly elevated. Again, I have read that the attainment gap is still growing and have examination standards really been maintained?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	All children in Scotland should have the same amount of teacher facing teaching time. All teachers are paid on the same scale, all children should receive the same education. West Lothian should do whatever necessary to be in line with other areas	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Alternative learning (whether play, sport, music other extra curricular experiences) opportunities provided during the school day are a positive.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Alternative education needs to be explored and used more. Not everyone is going to be academic.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Attainment is very easy to gauge - just look at league tables and whether they improve	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	You must ensure that the education of pupils in exam years is not impacted.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As long as the continuing increasing trend for pupils being taught by cover teachers is reversed. I know from my own experience years ago how constantly having a different teacher impacts learning.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduce the cost of supply teachers and sickness absence	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	learning is so important	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	My child only gets 40 mins for lunch which is barely time to be served and eat. Where is the time to relax, chat with friends, play if the proposal is to cut lunchtime (can't see how else this proposal would be achieved without changing start / finish times)? This would be detriment to my child's well-being.	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal could provide the opportunity to lengthen lunchtime.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	By reducing the school day would that not increase the provision for after school play as parents/guardians would have to look at changing their current childcare arrangements.	4. The council is already doing this.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not all children are going to use the alternative learning experiences ie at home learning as some do not have the support required at home. Parents that are working also may find getting child looked after in the home to do this.	4. The council is already doing this.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Education needs to be a seamless transition from Early years to secondary and beyond. The same opportunities for all should be available and adapted to the age/stage of the child.; There must be enough support for staff as well as children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	not suitable for working parents I would think	4. The council is already doing this.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	That will rely on parents, childcare etc. Thats quite a selfish approach from the perspective of placing additional childcare out to families who need to work to live. Having to be home to look after children that could be at school will mean parents can't go out to earn money in that time, which means that the pressure will be somewhere else on the state/benefits system to supplement their income.....shuffling the deck chairs?	4. The council is already doing this.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reducing the length of the school day will have a major impact on parents who will either have to change their hours of employment (possibly resulting in losing their positions) and/or footing the bill for additional childcare. Not all households have the luxury of depending upon their extended families to help with childcare.	4. The council is already doing this.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I hope that wrap around provision is looked at because these changes can have child care implications for families who are already struggling to manage due to cost of living crisis.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. School start and finish times will not change so there will be no impact on childcare.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This sounds more like a babysitting service than a school day. The excessive amount of paperwork work in schools that all staff (Inc teachers, pupil support workers and administrators) have to complete should be considered to be streamlined.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Reducing bureaucracy is already a priority for the service in discussion with professional associations.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As a parent council, the lenses we're using across our responses are equity and inclusion; mental health and wellbeing; teaching and learning. We raise the fact that this generation of young people have faced extremely challenging years, and applaud all efforts the schools and local authority have made to prioritise mental health and wellbeing in the months since lockdown.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Extra support would still be required if contact time was to be reduced. Particularly by psws.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Must match norm in Scotland.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council will consider practice elsewhere in Scotland, including evidence of a correlation between contact hours and attainment
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think it depends on what kind of alternative learning opportunities WLC is proposing and ensuring that even if teacher/pupil time is reduced that pupils continue to receive 100% quality time for their development.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The aim is that pupils continue to receive quality education.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	school hours are vital fro children to learn and feel safe the more they spend with staff the better a relationship they build up with them. A lot of children see school as a safe place to be and also have breakfast and lunch	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The proposal will not affect the hours pupils spend with any individual member of staff, as these are restricted to 22.5 hours per week by national agreement.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher/Pupil contact time is vital to the learning of pupils, and alternative learning arrangements must be fit for purpose to the learners needs.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The alternative learning experiences are intended to be fit for purpose and meet the needs of children and young people.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm sure you will take into account that different people learn in different ways - one size does not fit all and change therefore must be good for individual children so they can thrive and learn in a way that suits them, not pigeonhole them into something that suits the council.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Any new structure would continue to take account of individual needs, as does the current structure.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Change the arrangements of Torphichen primary school - currently the children are agile learning, they "float" to classrooms depending on what they choose to work on. They also have free reign on structuring their day and are not actually "taught" - I feel my childs education is suffering as a result and lots of children in his class are now being offered additional support for learning as they are not progressing. ; During a recent open day to demonstrate the research projects by the children some children were simply sitting with a laptop pretending to do their "research" for next project but there are no guidelines on the research project topic. How do the teachers know what level the child is working to when they don't have 1:1 time with them. For a small school with small classes it's very disappointing.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Any specific concerns regarding your child's education should be raised with the Headteacher in the first instance.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teachers are there to teach and educate so they should not reduce hours that they are teaching	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Individual teacher contact time will not be altered by the proposal.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	22.5 hours!!!! If time with children reduces, so does their pay. Teacher strikes are becoming ridiculous and now there's suggestion to reduce time actually doing their job? No.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. No change to the pupil contact hours of individual teachers is proposed.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	do not agree, this will just burden they system for parents with extra child care costs or take people out of employment to cover the reduction in school days putting more of a burden on the council	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. No change to the length of the school day is proposed due to the impact on working parents.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It's important that this is designed to not have any adverse affect on attainment.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Could be implications for poorer families already struggling with childcare and/or the ability to heat homes if primary school day is reduced.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. No change to the length of the school day is proposed.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	ASN children will be disadvantaged. If the childcare costs will creep up, people (women in particular) will start working less.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. No change to the length of the school day is proposed. No change to support for ASN pupils is proposed as part of this proposal.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Restructuring the school day then leaves parents with yet another difficulty of adjusting their work schedule and possibly increasing their childcare costs at a time of great austerity is this really a beneficial saving if the well being of children is at the heart of education	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. No change to the length of the school day is proposed.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Review of school uniform policy needed	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Scottish Government has recently conducted a consultation on a national school uniform policy, to which the Council contributed.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Essential that the relevant trade unions are fully involved in the process.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How can working parents tickets to school and get to the place of employment in time if the kids can't be taken to school early	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response, No change to school start times is proposed.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Yet, no change for the ELC. Where hours implemented aren't being taken by families and there is ample staff in the evening until 6.20pm with little or no kids.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Total ELC hours are set by the Scottish Government and are required by law.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think the ELC provision should be included in this. I am witness to ongoing staff absences and a stretched provision in ELC because of 1140 over 07.45 - 18.00. To provide the model of 8-4 four days a week would decrease the need for supply staff, reduce building operational requirements and align the elc day with the school provisions thus closing in the holidays and saving monies through heating janitorial staffing cleaning lunches etc. ;	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your response. The council will review the framework on an ongoing basis.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	my thought are close school Fridays as it is a short-day having school open longer through the week this is reducing heating electricity cost saving on school meals Friday	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Schools must open, by law, on a defined number of days per year, but this suggestion will be discussed with national partners to determine whether it could be taken forward.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Hard to know how this efficiency can be delivered. However, serious consideration needs to be given to reducing the school week to 4 days. This would reduce the amount of transport required and could help with childcare arrangements as the school day would be more closely aligned with the working day.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Schools must open, by law, on a defined number of days per year, but this suggestion will be discussed with national partners to determine whether it could be taken forward.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduce the school day to remove the need for RCCT or increase the school day Mon- Thurs and close schools on a Friday this will help to reduce heating costs/lunch provision etc	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your response. The number of school openings is set by regulation.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Cut back on all the holidays	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The number of school openings is set by regulation.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Schools are under immense pressure to report positive attainment rather than reflecting actual need. I question whether this promotes good practice or inflated figures.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	1F My suggestion is a four day (Monday to Thursday) week for all schools keeping the 22.5 hour Teacher Contact time and no change to the start or finish time of the existing day. The kids and the teacher get a decent break over the weekend and will encourage parents to negotiate their hours or working arrangements to match the school weeks giving them more family time. Savings on energy costs and increased staff morale and reducing sickness. Results would probably stay the same or improve.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your response. The number of days that schools must open is set by regulation, but this idea could be explored on a national basis with the Scottish Government with the suggestion that Council's are given greater flexibility.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	How about bringing the school holidays in line with other local authorities so parents with children who go to schools outside West Lothian don't have to make two arrangements to cover childcare?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So therefore in order to save the teachers would get less money because they would have less hours	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Teacher pay and conditions are set at a national level.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The school day needs to be extended to allow after school clubs classes on offer and non teaching time to allow working parents to Earn money especially given new cost of living for all families.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would be good if West Lothian had the same holidays as Edinburgh for people who live in one area and work in another	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A four day week would be a better idea with class teachers getting their non-contact time on a Friday morning.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Additional after school clubs should be funded for working parents and to increase additional skills in children	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unsure what cover arrangements would entail, if in regards to teaching staff, only qualified teachers should be covering non-class contact time, to ensure continuity for the children.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Have the kids in from 9-4 Monday to Friday and less half term holidays and these nonsecal days for teacher training ; They are already qualified	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't know how this can be achieved as they are not in the school for very long as it is as i see a lot of secondary pupils wandering the streets during the school day and when you seay anything all you get is i have a free period if this is the case do away with these and then you could deal with this proposal	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. Opportunities for self directed study may form part of the proposal.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	School should open and close for the school day 8-4;	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. No change is planned to the length of the school day.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Need to increase more teacher as well as introduce some scientific education . Can take lesson from other countries like Australia/USA/Canada	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is a budget reduction member. Increasing the number of teachers would cost money. No budget exists to do this.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Any change to school timings should surely be to increase teacher pupil time to enhance educational offerings and improve pupil achievement. Proposed cuts in this timing appears to be against current educational stated intentions	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is a budget reduction member. Increasing the number of teachers contact hours would cost money. No budget exists to do this.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teaching time should not be reduced further. It is little enough already.; ; Return to full day on a Friday.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is a budget reduction measure. Returning to a full day on Friday would cost more money, and, as explained in the consultation, the Council needs to reduce the amount of money it is spending.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Think schools should be 5 full days rather than 4 full days and half day ok a Friday I.E 8:45 am till 3:30 pm	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is a budget reduction measure. Returning to a full day on Friday would cost more money, and, as explained in the consultation, the Council needs to reduce the amount of money it is spending.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Kids should have more time in chool not less. After school clubs and breakfast clubs should be extended to offer additional help for working parents who are unable to afford childcare and have no friends or family to help	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is a budget reduction measure. Extending school opening would cost more money, and, as explained in the consultation, the Council needs to reduce the amount of money it is spending.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think if we extended the school day by one hour Monday to Thursday and completely closed the building on a Friday we would provide the same amount of school teaching hours for pupil but would save on heating and electricity on Fridays as there would be no need to open the schools. It would also save on transportation costs as we would only need to provide transport Monday to Thursday	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The number of days that schools must open is set by regulation, but this idea could be explored on a national basis with the Scottish Government with the suggestion that Council's are given greater flexibility.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	School days are so short as it is and with a half day Friday	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is a budget reduction measure. Extending the school day on Friday would cost money, and, as explained in the consultation, the Council must reduce the amount of money it spends.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not know - north lanarkshire has a 9-3pm school day 5 days a week so who has the better performance record? On another level I would support shorter holidays with. 4 week max break in the summer ? the longer one is absent from a role the harder it is to get back in the saddle speaking as an ex pupil and 2 year unemployed person	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is a budget reduction measure. Lengthening the school day would require additional funding, which, as explained in the consultation, is not available. The Council consults annually on school holidays, but the total number of teaching days is set by regulation.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Fridays are a bit pointless unless the day is extended to 15.30.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is a budget reduction measure. Extending the school day on Friday would cost money, and, as explained in the consultation, the Council must reduce the amount of money it spends.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	22.5 hours ; More education needed	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is to reduce the Council's budget, as is required.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Should be a normal 9-5 with children allowed to take holidays when they wish.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. There is no plan to increase the length of the school day or entitlement to free early learning and childcare. The purpose of the consultation is to identify areas where budget reductions can be made. Funding does not exist to extend the school day.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	it is outrageous that the day in nursery and school is so short so do you want the parents to have a job what about a full time job? So a longer day at nursery/ school would be more beneficial for the kids	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. There is no plan to increase the length of the school day or entitlement to free early learning and childcare. The purpose of the consultation is to identify areas where budget reductions can be made. Funding does not exist to extend these services.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Not sure how the 50 min will help with your plan of improve attainment. More pupil/teacher contact is needed in our school.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This will lead to mass issues with parents. Schools are seen as an essential childcare service.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Reduce school mornings. For the love of god; let them start at 9-9.30am. ; Pretty please.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. Reducing the length of the school day would impact negatively on working parents.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Starting the school day at 9am across all school would be more in line with how young people do best. They need more sleep and a later start to the day.; I'd like to see school start at 9.30am ideally	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. A later school start time would impact on working parents.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I feel many families need before/after school cover	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	An expansion of out of school care for vulnerable children is planned.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If contact time is reduced I'd rather a reduced school day when the children get home earlier. The children go to school to have the contact time with teachers. Please send children home earlier rather than fill time up with screens.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your response. No change is planned to the length of the school day due to the impact on working parents.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you are going to reduce the amount of teacher pupil contact time then reduce the school day and send our children home to have that time with family or extra circular activities outside school. DO NOT SIT THEM IN FRONT OF SCREENS.;	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your response. No change is planned to the length of the school day due to the impact on working parents.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Employers have made big changes to the work place with increased flexibility for working at home. It's time to review the school day and consult with parents on a more flexible changes, for example, 4 longer days (instead of a short Friday) which would help working parents and reduce the need for daily childcare. It would also allow quality family time over the weekend and time to focus on other extra-curricular activities. Teachers could focus on their teaching commitments on those days and spend the time planning on a Friday like in other European countries. This would reduce the fragmented timetabling some children experience.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Schools are currently required by regulation to provide 190 days of Education. A national debate on the future model of education provision, taking account of the future needs of society would be beneficial to ensure the future relevance and effectiveness of school education, as well as efficiency.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Aligning primary/secondary school times will allow for easier transition. With the strain of secondary school teaching, due to class sizes, etc more not less teacher contact time is needed. As the teachers with large classes need to spend more time with their pupils, or have smaller classes and more teachers.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The proposal need not affect the length of the school day and will not impact on class sizes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I think schools could be run over a 4 day week Monday - Thurs, the school week could be covered with an extra hour over these days to cover the Friday morning. Schools running costs would be over 4 days rather than 4 1/2, reducing school bus expenses as well as opening school etc	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Schools are currently required by regulation to provide 190 days of Education. A national debate on the future model of education provision, taking account of the future needs of society would be beneficial to ensure the future relevance and effectiveness of school education, as well as efficiency.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Ask the teachers.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Let students start later in the mornings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children thrive better when they are in a learning environment with other peers their same age. I feel for secondary school kids, in class learning is better for them than any kind of online learning.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children currently have 25 hours of teaching time per week - 22.5 with their class teacher and 2.5 with additional teachers. This proposal would only save money if the children go home after 22.5 hours. Other than that, additional money would always be needed to cover the cost of the staff who would work with the children for the additional 2.5 hours. There are not enough third sector organisations to provide 2.5 hours for every class in every school across the local authority and pupil support staff would not be able to cover classes. I would propose a slight extension to the school day Mon - Thur and have a Friday without school. Staff could work from home and save heating costs in school buildings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Schools are currently required by regulation to provide 190 days of Education. A national debate on the future model of education provision, taking account of the future needs of society would be beneficial to ensure the future relevance and effectiveness of school education, as well as efficiency.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The key here is that kids are learning in a sustainable, supportive way and getting the clear input they need to thrive. If that's through group learning, fine but it can't be through herd learning as that will disadvantage the least able and the least confident and they'll end up worse off.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A hub could be introduced in each area to provide childcare in the holidays if needed. As in covid times when children with key worker parents applied for childcare and attended a hub in their area. This would prevent a full school building being opened for 10 children and 8 staff. Not to forget the additional costs incurred to keep the buildings open. If ELC followed the model of an 8-4 day the level of attainment and quality of educational experiences would only benefit each child for their transition to P1. Rather than children dropping in and out of setting for 2 days or 5 mornings not making any real connections.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Outdoor nurseries have already proven to establish greater resilience, self-regulation and develop skills that help them deal with stress and other difficult situations. These skills will prove to be of greater importance in the future. Why haven't WLC looked at embracing such approaches to reduce the use and cost of buildings and the positive impacts on child development?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How do working parents cope with children that may be at home longer? How has this been evaluated to ensure that the children and their education are not adversely affected?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Schools make increased use of West Lothian's open spaces and particularly the Country Parks. This is only possible if the countryside resources are managed and maintained, so please ensure this is considered before instilling "alternative learning experiences" into the restructured school day. Country Parks which are free to park in, free to use in general, are a great asset to West Lothian visitors, residents and visitors from outside the county and beyond. Just look at the level of use throughout covid and subsequently too. These facilities do not self-manage but are too often used but silently appreciated by so many.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Prior to any change in teaching time, customers would need to be made aware of what the alternative learning experiences are before any agreement could be sought	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	'Alternative learning experiences' must not become simply ways to fill time. We should remove that which is not vital and focus on the basics, instead.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Thorough consultation would be required before adopting any changes. Further detail on the 'alternative learning experiences' is required to allow the public to have an informed say.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Children require time to be supported in their learning by a teacher. At the moment there is a lot of talk of raising attainment if this is the case surely reducing teacher contact time would not help. Paper work should be reduced to allow more teacher child contact. Extra free curriculum hours would be supported to extend day as not many parents work between school hours. Early years can now be in to 6.15pm yet school finished at 3.15. There is a big gap and widening from expectations from early years to school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If outside providers were to be used for alternative learning experiences this would need to be strategically planned and the alternative learning experiences would need to be of a high quality. In my opinion Pupil support workers would not be able to undertake this supervision or provide alternative learning experiences for whole classes that were of a high quality and standard unless significant training was put in place.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There will be a need to ensure the alternative learning experiences are high quality - reducing teaching time (and involvement of professional teachers) will have to be carefully monitored for any adverse impact.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The savings should not impact of the facilities etc currently supplied for the children	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This seems like a good idea but has the council thought of taking this further by reducing the school week to 4 days?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Schools are currently required by regulation to provide 190 days of Education. A national debate on the future model of education provision, taking account of the future needs of society would be beneficial to ensure the future relevance and effectiveness of school education, as well as efficiency.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	if they did this they also need to think of the parents who have child care and who can afford this	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I personally think that High School age should be a normal full day on a Friday like they have in Fife region. I think the school week is fine the way it is.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Remove half day on a Friday - it helps families paying for childcare!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This should only be considered if; Standards meet educational benchmarks.; Provision remains free; This is not used an excuse to cut staffing	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Close on a Friday	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Schools must open, by law, on a defined number of days per year, but this suggestion will be discussed with national partners to determine whether it could be taken forward.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	We have not been able to locate a Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment in relation to; this proposal, and request that one is carried out in order that impacts are highlighted and; mitigated.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. The council will conduct integrated equality assessments on all proposals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The savings will only be on paper, however in reality teachers and staff will not benefit from reducing the school week. The biggest hindrance is marking tests/homework, this all needs to be digital whereby teachers will be required to do less admin.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Reducing bureaucracy is already a priority for the service in discussion with professional associations.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	We would not be in favour of reducing the Secondary school week but have more teaching support for CfE and use more project work than formal exam teaching to engage pupils on the subjects they are taking. The SQA needs to sort the issue with CfE paperwork so that the teachers are freed up to do what was originally envisaged with CfE and in doing so improve the attainment gap.; We would not be in favour of increasing the Primary school week and you should be looking at Scandinavian models for learning through play not formal teaching at this age. It will make it a very long exhausting week, when they should be enjoying their time at school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Increased learning through play in the primary sector is envisaged in the proposal.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	After 22.5 hours.; Supported homework / reading clubs otherwise many journals learning lost	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Why is this labour led council determined to deteriorate our childrens education!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Seen real teachers in primary. In secondary none. Education levels are worst ever. Just look at political movement in UK...of course their children are not in public education... Sad times...	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Primary school should not match secondary school in terms of the number of hours pupils spend in the building. You can't group teenagers with young kids together - they are different groups with different needs.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I dont think kids should be unsupervised... at school at least. Too much disruption and room for bullying etc.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I live near a school and can tell you that a) the kids cannot add up and b) They are never in school c) Look at facebook and none of them know the difference between where, were and we're and there, their and they're. They have holidays every single month of the year bar one.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I find it ridiculous that Scotland has moved towards a Friday afternoon off approach with schooling. It doesn't happen in other parts of UK and certainly not in Europe. How can we expect pupils to keep up with peers in other countries when contact time is reducing.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What happened to 9 till 4 it worked in the past	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think an improvement would be to have five full days at school for children in West Lothian like Falkirk and Stirling. It is very difficult for working parents when children are not in school on Friday afternoons.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	At the very time	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Blah blah	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Why would you reduce the secondary school week by 50mins when a high percentage of young people are now vaping in their schools during lessons which is encouraging them to walk out of lessons therefore reducing their contact time with teachers even more and please do not consider this to be false information as I am witnessing this on a regular basis	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	m*****(redacted)	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	(redacted) almighty!! The teachers kids themselves, tell them to stop bloody moaning about their "work load" and get in with the job they're paid to do. If the can't Jack it, there's lots of jobs going at Tesco!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	It is hard enough for a working parent to find / pay for childcare. I had to pay up to £1000 per month for childcare for 2 kids with a childminder as there are no other resources that suit my working hours 9am-5pm. So reducing the school hours will put more families into the not working category, as the childcare is far too expensive.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	opt teachers into tutoring after 3.30 to assist students and improve grades etc.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I think that the McCroan agreement needs to be revised and teacher expectations are explicitly clear on what this additional time time is used for e.g. school improvement planning needs to be built into this time and non contact time cannot be used solely for teacher planning and preparation.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I blame ***** (redacted)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Kids need to study more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Kids need less holidays there always off they don't learn nothing if there always off	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Already far too much movement in primary school through CofE our children are worse off through this teaching method. Teachers already pass the buck by not interacting with pupils saying if you are stuck ask your friend at the table; what about the child who gets asked all the time where is their learning.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Scot government is destroying education, all actions to educate kids must be maintained	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is something a devolved decision making should decide but best education practice in Scandinavian countries have children not starting formal education until 6 or 7 years old. Up to then the development is around play. The Primary school day should not be increased if it is going to be even more formal schooling and testing.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It is hard enough for teachers and staff to get through the useless curriculum that does not take into account that children need to constantly be practising the basic skills in order to be successful learners. Teachers are being forced to push kids through first/second/third etc level in order to have job security despite the impact on the child's holistic learning.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again children who are 2 get to go into nursery if parents are on benefits, yet people who are working there kids need to wait until they are 3! This is corrupt why so many people don't work.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Keep them in school longer. Too many holidays. Maybe years 1-3 have a shorter time table with a view rangers it is increased in 4-6 to prepare them for employment or further education! Make children want to come to school! You need to give them more enjoyment, encouragement and make learning fun! It's too rigid. Too many rules, too many consequences for silly behaviour! You need to be at their level show respect and earn respect!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If anything, the teacher contact time should be increased. Invest more in education to catch up with the nations that did not close schools during 2020-21. We are forced to pay for this education, costs have increased and Scotland's ranking has slipped significantly. Raise the standard of education by returning to pre-CforE curricula. Bring the focus of primary education back to literacy and numeracy and abandon social justice type causes. My primary 1 child is learning only 1 or 2 phonics per week. The education system should focus on inspiring and developing all children. Not forcing every child to learn at the pace of the slowest child in the country.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. The Council delivers curriculum for excellence in line with national standards and best practice.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	as per my above comment - looks like teacher/pupil time is already reduced will it be reduced more and then pupils can do what instead? - an example of alternative learning experiences would have been helpful	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I am completely unsure of how reducing time with teachers is going to help to continue to improve attainment? Would need much greater detail of what 'other opportunities' would be available to children in the space of not being with their teachers.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I would like to know what is proposed? What would the children be doing?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	How does this proposal translate into savings ? The paragraph doesn't explain this.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	No idea what this means. Description is vague. If length of school day is not changing what would the children be doing for the hours they are not with a teacher?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I think more detail is needed to highlight what is meant by alternative learning experiences before commenting	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I would like more detail on this. What would pupils be doing the rest of the time? How would educational standards be maintained?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	I am unsure of what exactly being proposed in order to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the school day	Who wrote this? Hilarious. Agile principles include - customer satisfaction, welcome change, delivering frequently and working together. Don't use big words to sound impressive if you don't know what they mean. Again, not enough information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There is nowhere near enough information here to make an informed comment. What exactly will this look like?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I have no idea what this means - you would reduce teacher/pupil contact time to 22.5 hours, which it currently is (so where's the reduction?) but keep the school day the same, so what are the children doing the rest of the time? And who is doing it with them?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Teacher contact time is currently 22.5 hours per week and there is an opportunity to re-align the primary school day to match this time.' What does this mean? Are you saying there are primary teachers who don't achieve the 22.5 hours? I simply do not understand what is being described here.' This proposal would also lead to a review of the secondary school week by reducing the school week by 50mins, but again with no change to the start time and end time of the school day.' What does that mean? How do you reduce the school week by 50 minutes yet keep current start and end times? Less class time? Longer breaks? Just no detail or example for this to be intelligible.; ' would bring the secondary school week in line with other local authorities'. Again, what do you mean? Without examples it is just an assertion. You cannot be saying teachers work longer hours in West Lothian, so what are you saying?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I cannot speak on behalf of primary teachers as a secondary teacher. I would like a clear, informed paper explaining exactly how 50 minutes will be taken from the school week without reducing the start or end times. This either would mean that we are expected to babysit students for a random 10 minute period, or our break and lunch duties would be extended even further than they currently are. Why is it important to be 'aligned' with local authorities, when you have just once again praised yourself on having 'improved school attainment' levels? Why would a change then be a good idea.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It can't possibly have no change if you're proposing changes	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This doesn't adequately explain what you are planning to do to allow a proper understanding. It is just a headline with a massive saving.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This statement needs more explanation as yet again it sounds as if teachers are bearing the brunt of bad working conditions equalling in stress of workload.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This needs further information and clarification. It is difficult to understand in its current format. Could there be a proposed example put forward for this with times etc to show exactly how this would work?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not making any sense!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't understand this. Less teacher time but same pay. It is not clear what is being proposed against what is current and where the saving comes from.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't understand this.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, sadly, this makes little sense to anyone not involved in school management .	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't understand what is being proposed	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not understand this. How can you reduce the school week by 50 minutes but it is not going to reduce the length of time in the classroom? This does not make sense to me. I think you will need a consultation exercise with parents/carers to ask them about this. Although school is not a childminding service, many parents/carers work, how will this affect those who struggle to find childcare as it is? I've got to be honest, children are hardly at school these days as it is with multiple holidays, in-service training days and we wonder how literacy is suffering.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't understand what you're proposing above because you don't seem to understand either. Current teaching time is going to be realigned to match the current teaching time? What? Again, if you've been inefficient to the tune of £2.4m up to now then, great, I'm glad you've finally figured it out. If you're just scalping the education budget, you should be ashamed of yourselves.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The above requires considerably more explanation for it to make sense. It raised a number of questions which should be answered before the public can make informed comment. What is an agile learning culture? Can you include a link to evidence improved attainment outcomes? What do you mean by realigning the school day? Are you proposing doing away with RCCT cover? If so, exactly what 'alternative learning experiences' are you proposing??? air these 'alternative experiences' are not delivered by a qualified teacher you are essentially significantly diluting children's educational rights. If you are proposing replacing RCCT a provision by a qualified teacher with digital technologies, you would need to means test this proposal for ALL children's needs to prove it was not damaging.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No sensible comment possible without knowing what an "agile learning culture" is. If you want comments you need to avoid jargon.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The writing in this survey is going to make it very difficult for people to understand what you actually mean. I believe another survey in plain terms would be beneficial	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Yet again, not enough detail to judge the impact this might have though I would imagine this would disproportionately affect poorer families.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is unclear, more detail required on how these savings will be achieved	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Makes absolutely no sense at all	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More details required as to how this would work.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is not explained fully. It is impossible to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to what the alternative learning experiences are.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Without details if what provision would be given during these reduced contact hours it is impossible to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Don't fully understand what this proposal means! A better explanation would have been useful.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More detail required as does not identify how a saving would be generated.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Current contact time is 22.5 hours per week but then it states that the teacher/pupil contact time would be reduced but not the time in the school day but also match the school day to the contact time? Does not make sense.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	No indication here of the HOW tis would work.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Once again an over-arching, broad brushstroke description of what could be done. The devil, as they say, lies in the detail. As there is no actual detail as to how this would be implemented in schools, I cannot actually comment. What I will comment on is the fact that this survey increasingly feels like a total waste of my time!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Far more detail is required to adequately expect informed comment from the public.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is far too vague in its information - in what ways do you propose to shorten time spent between teachers and pupils, yet still have children attend school for the same length of time.? What takes the place of learning when the teacher/ pupil contact is not there.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I don't understand this. What are 'alternative learning experiences'. Give the importance of the education of our children, it should be very clear about what is being proposed	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Alternative learning experiences can also contribute to raising attainment and achievement.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm not going to lie I have zero idea what this means. How will the school time reduce without a change to school hours	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The length of the school day will not be affected by this proposal which is to reduce teacher hours not school hours.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So does this risk attainment level success - not a clear proposal	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Alternative learning experiences can also contribute to raising attainment and achievement.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is worded to make it as difficult to understand as possible leading me to believe you do not want people to understand what you are suggesting.;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Overall I think this statement is very misleading for parents who do not understand the current set-up of a consistent class teacher for 22.5 hours and another GTC registered for the remainder of time to ensure quality teaching and learning at all times.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Please clarify which other authorities this would bring WL in line with as many other authorities have tried and failed to implement a similar model due to backlash from parents, unions, and MPs as a result of children potentially losing 19.5 days per school of 'teaching hours' from qualified practitioners or specialists. Furthermore, the Scottish Government pledged to reduce class-contact time for teachers by a further 90 minutes per week which was supposed to be implemented in August 22, this is very much still in the pipeline so how will this affect these proposals? Please also clarify what these alternative learning experiences for the remainder of the day would be and who would provide this support?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comments.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Surely these 'alternative learning experiences' need to be explained?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure why we should restructure the school day. This doesn't really explain it well	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Oh dear, this just reads as someone desperately trying to present a reduction in service as a benefit. This isn't valuable in a making the change of service and pros and cons clear. If you're using terms like align and re-align instead of reduce, you've missed the point of the public having an active role in redefining services or selecting savings. You're rubber stamping, not consulting.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More information is needed about this so that people can ascertain any potential detrimental impact on school children.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If you reduce the contact with teacher/pupil who will actually teach/look after our children while in school?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So you'll just let kids roam free for parts of the day? What are the actual proposals?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I feel more info on this is needed. If it's goi g to mean less time with teachers does that means pupils especially high school will just end up with more homework to do as their is not enough time in class. This happens already. if you plan to reduce the teacher contact time I'd rather parents had a choice thst their child could start later or leave early.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I do not understand the last statement. Week to be reduced by 50 minutes but no change to start and end time? Who will be supervising out with 22.5 teacher face to face time?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There needs to be more clarification on this.Are you expecting teaching staff to deliver the same tightly packed curriculum in a shorter amount of time?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There needs to be more clarification on this. I feel staff are already struggling to fit everything in. ; ; Are you proposing you employee specialists to allow opportunities for alternative learning experiences?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There needs to be more clarification on this. How is this going to be paid for?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	There needs to be more clarification on this. ; ; ; How do you propose to shorten the school week without changing start/end times?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure explained enough to answer the question, what other activities?? Kids are in school to learn.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This needs fuller explanation before I can comment. I can't see how you can reduce the school week by 50 minutes, yet not change the start and finish times of the school day.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I feel that this is deliberately vague. How can you reduce teacher/pupil time yet maintain the length of the school day. Far more detail and explanation would be required on this to be able to make an evaluation of the idea.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Key though is to ensure kids no impacted by this, unclear exactly what the time used for/ changed to	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It's very unclear what this proposal actually means. Sounds like longer breaks for pupils but I'm unsure.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would this mean pupils would be with another staff member who is not GTCS registered, such as PSW? Above proposal made it seem that PSW funding may be cut. Concern as to the quality of experience pupils may be missing out on. Would pupils be without P.E. Specialist, drama teacher etc?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure how reducing the length of the school day but no change to the start/end times would achieve that level of saving? Again not enough context given	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	i dont understand this.; s%\$t patter - if this means that its a cut to teacher non-contact time.; reduce school hours, will be a stress for parents who need to plan things around work etc.; Does this mean you are going to put in pupil support workers in instead of teachers?; Would need more information on this before being able to comments.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I dont understand the above what you looking to reduce exactly.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Our children deserve to be taught be a qualified teacher. This is the start of a very slippery slope where standards fall. Who are you proposing will provide these extra 2.5 hours for the children? This is not clear in the statement and is extremely concerning.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	In exactly what way are you proposing to restructure the school day?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It's hard to comment on this as it's unclear how this would look. Do not support a reduction of teaching at secondary and would like to know if this would apply to all secondary schools in West Lothian or only certain schools.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. The proposal would apply to all schools.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again the statement does not have enough information. Who will be teaching the children in the shortfall? Children deserve the best education and cutting back these areas, I feel, could result in children getting more anxious.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would teach the children when they are not with the teacher? Specialists?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How is this going to save money?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	The lack of detail on this consultation makes this consultation survey hugely inaccessible - to those who do not understand the language and jargon used within the descriptions, to the 20% of parents and residents who speak English as their second language and for those who live digital poverty and have limited access to the internet. This survey is completely overwhelming for many West Lothian residents and lack of accessibility is hugely disappointing.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I would like further discussion regarding this point (1F) as I am unclear how £2.4 million will be saved by reducing class contact time. Without fully understanding the impact that the proposed changes would make on the children, I cannot approve of this money saving suggestion. ; ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is not set out very clearly	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I have no idea how this will affect our children's education and well being I would definitely need to know more about this and what they would be doing and with whom for the remainder of the school day, I feel this is very unusual but I am definitely keen to receive more information on this	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What does this mean for pupils? Less teaching time but longer breaks?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What would the alternative learning experiences consist of? I read a lot of blah blah blah in there with no concrete examples. Reducing teaching time is what I'm reading. Kids particularly young kids need to feel stimulated and excited by doing or learning things. They also need time to absorb what they have learned but remain engaged. Where and how will the 50mins of teaching time be trimmed?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I'm not sure how this would work the information isn't very clear!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is a very unclear statement and does not explain what this actually entails.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	It's not clear to me what this means in practice.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again, this needs concrete examples. How are the children going to spend this time? Unsupervised in the court yard, in front of a screen, or quiet homework time?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	If "teacher/pupil contact time" is being reduced, but with "no change to the length of the overall school day", what will children be doing with the time they are not with a teacher? What does the council mean when they say children will be getting "alternative learning experiences for the remainder of the time"? What exactly will these learning experiences entail? I have grave concerns about the implications here and need more information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitably qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This is not fully explained, how will the length of the school day remain the same start and end time and yet reduce my 50 minutes	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What on earth does "alternative learning experiences " mean??? And how can the school day be restructured when teacher contracts are nationally agreed???	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Who would be providing this cover? Are they simply a cheap childcare option. Why do we need to make the school day shorter. How will teachers ensure the curriculum is taught if less hours to do it in?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information. I feel very anxious about how the council feel it is ok to reduce teaching time for our pupils	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the schools my grandchildren attend and how it will impact their education due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Not sure what this means in practical terms	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	What exactly are these proposals... ; ; If I say I need to meet my council tax obligations but pay less tax.. it means nothing without facts	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How would "alternative learning experiences" look?; Who would deliver these?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Would this mean more time for primary school pupils without a qualified teacher? What impact would this have on their learning? ; How would the change for secondary school pupils affect their choices moving forward? Would this result in narrowing the curriculum for these pupils?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Very difficult to give much of a comment until more detail about how this would work in each school was available	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	A before can I assume that 'opportunity to provide alternative learning experiences' means cutting teaching time?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This doesn't make sense. How do you cut 50 mins off the school day without reducing the length of the day? If 22.5 is currently teacher contact time and you're saying this won't reduce then how do you reduce teacher/pupil contact time. Writing these statements in plain English would save me trying to figure out what you mean.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other qualified staff can lead activities in the remaining time.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How is this a saving? Where would the 50 minutes during the week come from?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Again what would happen to teachers who cover mcrone in schools? Would they still have jobs?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. The budget saving would be achieved by reducing the need for these staff.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Does this mean kids may be left on their own at times in the classroom? Totally confusing again.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	Kids education should be a priority. What are they going to be doing for 59 minutes? You are too vague on the details here	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	More detail needed of how much teacher/pupil time would be reduced to establish the impact this may have on learning. Wouldn't want this implemented without parent consultation.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How are pupils being supervised in these alternative learning experience....how therefore are pupil teacher contact times reduced?; ; Pupil time without appropriate staff is wasted time secondary and primary.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Other suitable qualified staff can provide alternative education experiences.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	I am not really getting this. If you are still paying teachers the same salary- how are you saving ? I presume you will fill the hours with sport/ support staff - but who is actually in charge ?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	How would be responsible for the pupils if school and what experiences would've given if teaching time is realigned but school day times are staying the same and what impact will this have on pupils	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	This proposal doesn't make sense. How would you realign arrangements to match current contact time simultaneously resulting in a reduction in contact time. Separately it would be useful to explain what the alternative learning experiences entail and who would oversee. The proposals also lack clarity re secondary school week. It could be useful to explain what is recognised by the school week in this context e.g. is it actual class time. If start of day remains the same as does end of day but mins in the school week is otherwise reduced by 50mins one could assume that breaks aren't counted as part of the school week. It could be easier to set out the proposal as equating to extending 'play time'. (I'm discounting other possibilities around making fundamental changes to clock and time structure e.g. having fewer but longer minutes in an hour but this could equally be read from the question as posed.)	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1F Restructuring the School Day	So this means less teachers and more support staff? Pupils need qualified staff to support their learning and I fail to see how these measures support this. What do you mean by alternative learning experiences? More explanation needed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Happy with this proposal and efficiencies as long as the children are looked after and protected to the same or better level and that not one is put at risk.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree, team alignment without cutting the service standards should be implemented.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	All for efficiency of services but you need to be careful about reduction in staffing - that should be the bonus not the aim of any review. In principle it sounds like a good approach	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I have always been wanting to do fostering as I work with children and have disclosures and would like to help a family out struggling themselves fostering is a very good j	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Seems like a good idea as long as reducing staffing does not have the reverse result in delivering the services certainly any duplication should be removed in the services so more direct to what delivering	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	More efficient way of working which targets the most vulnerable and of this improves their life chances, it is a good suggestion	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This so fantastic for children who need help and support especially the most vulnerable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as children are still at the centre of the service and cuts do not impact the opportunities these children have.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is a good all rounder , we need to help our younger generation as they will mould our future.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Yes focus on the ones with the highest needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This should have happened years ago, money has been wasted in transportation alone bringing children back and forward to parents houses and schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as the redesign and alignment makes sense and isn't just done as a cost cutting measure - kids still need and should be able to access support outwith mainstream education provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Having worked in front line CP. this is not done well at present. Foster carers are not trained well to deal with traumatised children and too easily some give up on the placement. (Not all, and there are some excellent carers within west Lothian) Glad to hear that the plan is to strengthen this, however hands on support needs to be available to carers. SCET often don't visit and the carers need someone to visit, listen too and support out with the core office hours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds like a great idea, please go ahead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children deserve the best chances to survive with the best service possible West Lothian lacks in resources for a few things, fostering in West Lothian can be hard as there is limited resourcing, limited bigger houses and definitely lack of things to do	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Welcome the fostering initiatives but not sure how reducing staff is going to help this process, is it not going to increase the risk of those most vulnerable falling through the cracks due to staff shortages.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Protect our young people by not "targetting" front line staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think a more streamline teams would work well for kids, surely the would prefer and familiar face.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I support this proposal. The council has made great strides in supporting Children's services through integration and modernisation and should continue to do so.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As an ex care leaver social services are a massively needed service. More funding is needed to build experienced staff members to deal with the trauma a lot of young people and children are dealing with. It is important to try keep families together and have carers who can care for children with disabilities as they are often the ones abused or not cared for.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds good but are there the staff available to deliver this service?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is essential service will maintain its focus on supporting children most at risk and providing earlier intervention services in line with statutory (legal) requirements.; If the range of fostering options can be strengthened in such a way to avoid children having to leave their home community, this would be a very good outcome. If this is a possibility, it does beg the question as to why it hasn't been done already.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Streamlining services can only help- if it's effective. Children are bounced around, being refused help and sent to the next place. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If these savings can be realised by shifting from private companies to council-overseen services I am supportive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This suggestions seem to propose an improvement of the service while providing a saving. This seems much more worthwhile than cutting the number of teaching hours of all children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Outstanding work congratulations WLC.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Support the idea of care in families rather than groups. My professional experience is however that foster services need to train people better and social workers need to be in closer contact with the families and children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If we provide better services at reduced cost, it makes sense for the council to do this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children at risk should be removed earlier from parents. The amount of services involved in trying to assist parents and the amount of damage done to children due to this is abhorrent.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Wow sounds amazing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Fantastic news that extra training will be given. ; I would suggest providing 'trauma-informed' training to potential carers should become a standard	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	agree but dont understand how cuts can make this be viable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This needs to be looked at to ensure the children are given the best possible care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Assume this means less institution based support with more community based fostering which should be beneficial to the child and as such a good thing as long as carers support is increased to cope with increased demand.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Investment into our most vulnerable children should be a high priority.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would welcome a review of social policy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would also welcome any promotion of foster care within the authority to prevent any CE young person from having to live outwith WL. I'd also welcome a review of our current provisions for looked after young people residing outwith the authority in paid placements which can cost in excess of £12,000 per month and the adequacy of such provisions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	On paper, this proposal looks like a good idea but fostering will never be able to completely cover the cost of care for our most vulnerable young people, especially if it is paired with a reduction in the support available from social policy. This service is already stretched to a point that has reduced its capacity to operate effectively.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Understand the concept but have concerns about how feasible it is to increase Foster care when it is already difficult to recruit and retain	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Great ideas. I also feel to help children the school environment can help with support of parents. Encouraging participation of parents to take part in school activities (parent counsel etc) this adds extra support to children and parents can help to support and spot and report potential issues.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If this can be done without putting our most vulnerable children more at risk, then ok.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	this appears sensible - however job losses are disappointing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Looking good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Yes, this seems good and worthwhile. There's more support then ever for children, but it seems sometime parents are more interested in a diagnosis than in helping their kids to grow as people. Hopefully this can be part of your thinking.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Anything that supports vulnerable children during these times is essential.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds really good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	More health visitors are badly needed across the whole authority and specialist early intervention services. WE want to Get it right for every child not wrong for more children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	More positive foster care availability would be positive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This would be a good idea as there are a plethora of children's service provision all attempting to achieve the same goals from slightly different service provision perspectives.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agreed. But I would note that the most chaotic families produce the most damaged and disruptive children. These young people create a huge burden on their communities in terms of anti-social behaviour and criminality. If Social Work support is less available to families in general, it should be more concentrated where it is most needed and at an early stage. There is currently a tendency to wait until the young person's behaviour becomes unacceptable, or they become old enough to be dealt with by the criminal justice system. There needs to be clear sanctions for these children, and parents who will not co-operate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	A review of childrens services is very much welcome and will hopefully increase efficiency. Reducing staff numbers is a good idea as long as it doesn't affect the quality of the services provided. it is vital that services are accessed early particularly for those most at risk. It is all about keeping children safe and cared for in their own communities. The development of intensive foster care for disabled children is very much welcome.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Keeping young people local, and in their own communities is absolutely in line with council and educational values.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children require stability and consistency; therefore, this will be a good for the children of West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think this makes a lot of sense as it helps to keep the children within their home community to enable them to continue to make strong links with their peers and home supports	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Aligning teams more closely makes sense but not necessarily by reducing staff numbers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	not had any dealings however anything that can provide support and guidance for help	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with the streamlining of teams.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The problem at the moment is that there is so much focus on high tariff pupils. Early intervention is not something I see happening as whenever a concern is raised, it is almost brushed off until it becomes more serious as they are dealing with the bigger issues all of the time. Again, reduced staffing is not the answer. By all means, streamline process, but use other staff to help proactively.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Engaging with the public, and providing support, which doesn't always mean spending money, will actually provide a better service for those most vulnerable. Early support and help, rather than last minute intervention will have a better effect on the whole community, rather than our community being shallow and disjointed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Things should be streamlined. This cannot become a responsibility of teachers though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This sounds like a good idea in principle but in practice it could be very different. At a time when people are struggling financially and mental health is poor, many children may be in situations of increased vulnerability and these situations may be overlooked as staff are stretched so thin. The recruitment of good foster carers may also be tricky in a time when family budgets are squeezed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This sounds like a good idea but people like me in Westlothian don't know about this program	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is great news, there are so many vulnerable and underprivileged children in West Lothian, we must strive to reduce their stress and ensure they are warm, fed and safe.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Young people and foster carers a long side education require more support to help the young people with challenging life's. Health visitors need to be more visible and available to support all stages from the onset to stop children falling through the net.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's care requirements are essential and fully support any scheme that put children welfare first.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is not something I have a lot of knowledge about but would support if felt there was need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	An area that needs improvement but unsure how this can be done with "reduced staffing".	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The people in these departments are the ones who know best and know what can realistically be done as they are the ones who understand and see 1st hand the situations. These are the ones needing consultations with. And its a very difficult job. They need listening to so the best decisions can be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The people in these departments are the ones who know best and know what can realistically be done as they are the ones who understand and see 1st hand the situations. These are the ones needing consultations with. And its a very difficult job. They need listening to so the best decisions can be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As much support as possible to traumatised families. Help to stop the cycles of abuse. This dovetails into housing policy as families need safe, appropriate housing so hard crackdown on illegal landlords etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, it worries me that we are going to lose valuable Staff members with years of experience, training and service delivery who have dedicated themselves to the Service and Service provision over the years. My understanding in reading this question feels like we intend to recruit more Foster Families to cover these changes. If I am understanding this correctly then I agree that Foster Placements can be invaluable however, we really must tighten up the ongoing Training requirements of Foster Carers if this is to be the case.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff sounds risky for a group of children who need a lot of support but if it can be achieved without loss of quality service to children the broadly agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Placing traumatised children in loving homes gets my support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as the children requiring the use of social services are not disadvantaged. Also need to ensure that services are available when required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	fostering process is very long winded and time consuming all round for everyone it needs to be looked at definitely to see if it can be slimmed down any with processes etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The principles of strengtening fostering arrangements and also providing intensive foster care are absolutely essential and ensure that children have the support they need around them at the most important times. Ensuring this is enacted fully and properly, may serve to reduce the reactionary aspect and huge demand placed on social policy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is a nice idea. I hope it can work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It would good to keep children in their own area of West Lothian and quality foster care should be provided.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think that this is an area of legitimate potential saving. Supporting West Lothian's most vulnerable young people to stay in West Lothian would provide better connections for our young people as well as potential savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	with little detail and data available - it feels like the right thing to do but its still unclear to me	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as the standard of foster carers are appropriate. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	My knowledge is low on this, but it seems like a good idea as long as it still covers the safety of the children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	By all means, please review. But staff reductions again. Will anyone be left? Rather than using some consultant's report with potentially "dressed up" ideas, why just not say that you are leaving it to the parents and scrap the whole unit. Clearly, support in certain situations where there are no parents or not supportive parents and the like needs to be evaluated and I guess you need to cut your cloth accordingly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Yes but more information needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agreed. Increasing the number of foster placements in West Lothian should be a positive alternative to paying for expensive placements outwith the council area, and provide better support for the child	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as we Continue to care for vulnerable children then; This sounds ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think it all sounds great that these services will be run more efficiently and increased where necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree that the children will benefit where possible remaining in West Lothian being near family/friends. Currently the teams work well and have an even spread, greater use of technology and flexible working could help efficiency/saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Positive if Foster Carers can be found	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think it strange that there is a push to return to face-to-face Child Protection case conferences and Planning Meetings for accommodated children given the cost implications. If families/young people indicate a preference for face-to-face meetings then that should be respected wherever practicable, however, there are significant savings to be made in having online meetings in terms of: - no travelling time wasted in getting to meeting venues (Reviewing Officers/minute takers will be able to cover more reviews); - no transport costs (pool cars, fuel, etc)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Kinship children should be included, their carers get very little help especially financially	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Provided that this is efficiencies within the teams, but service levels are at least maintained, this should be getting done anyway.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Competent managers. Competent foster carers and getting to the root cause of why is this needed. ; Poverty/ lack of achievement / social issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Possibly. Will you get more foster carers though? Is this realistic?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Anything to improve the lives of vulnerable children is a positive thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think you should look into some ppl to see if they actually need all the help that others could benefit from; I know someone that has their own transport, yet her child gets a taxi from home to school and back, I think a lot of ppl play the system, cuts can be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Anything that improves the options available for fostering, and achieves positive outcomes for children should be supported. It has become clear over many years that the breadth and complexity of providing children's services is not to be underestimated, with lives at risk if there is not sufficient resource. Any rationalisation in this area must be closely scrutinised and due care taken to ensure that no members of staff or child under their care is put at undue risk.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This seems a very positive proposal - the early intervention approach has great potential to reduce costs in areas such as children's social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	this is a much needed service change and think will help LAC a lot with less time spent adjusting to new schools, social groups etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The social work budget is far too high. Whilst I agree there are efficiencies to be made by reducing staffing, and I am glad to see that forms part of the proposal, the council should spend some time with the small number of families who use a disproportionately large portion of the social work budget to try to educate them on limiting the number of children they have, particularly when every child they have ends up removed from their care. The council should also carefully consider whether it is trying to make short term savings which result in longer term costs (ie refusal to send children early to secure units due to immediate cost resulting in further interventions in future, or refusal to send families to residential parenting assessment units early on due to immediate costs but resulting in drawn out childrens hearings and permanence procedures later on). Spending should be weighted towards preventing children being traumatised to start with rather than dealing with it afterwards. Foster carers are already well paid, foster carer rates should not be increased. The practice of renting entire houses with multiple round the clock staff for one or two children only should be stopped - larger residential units provide economies of scale re staffing and housing costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	GIRFEC needs to be top priority here!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If this cost saving can be achieved without introducing significant compromise to the service it would be the right thing to do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Happy with this proposal and efficiencies as long as the children are looked after and protected to the same or better level and that not one is put at risk.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I support this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with this propoosal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This would be amazing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No issues with proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Streamlining and the avoidance of duplication of work is to be encouraged.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Seems OK.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reasonable proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds good in theory	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These developments sound positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This seems a sensible idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This should be done.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	A good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Streamline social work by reducing the amount of senior social workers and social work managers. Integration and closer working will be difficult due to each section being protective of their area. Reduction in senior social work officers and managers and increasing front line support and social workers will improve this situation. Everyone talks about trauma and it is the new buzz word for sure, but how many practitioners and foster carers are truly trauma informed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Whole Foster Care system needs a review and proper protection of the children and their foster families needs addressed. Current model seems more interested in the parents rights.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Bringing the various teams who care for children in society closer together is welcomed while not reducing the scope to ensure that all children are supported removed from risk if required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree that foster care should always be the first point of call for children. They require a family asap and a foster home does not provide the level of care a family can.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, savings must be made somehow, and although it's worrying removing it from these most vital services, an opportunity to redesign service delivery may be an opportunity to improve services and become more efficient. There's no point in doing things because they've always been done like that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I do believe that children are best fostered within their area where it is safe to do so in order that family contact can be maintained but, for safety reasons, that cannot always happen as safeguarding must take priority. Employing more foster carers in the area sounds like a good plan although, that will cost money!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as the children don't lose out on anything this money is very important .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think quality of staff is so important here as this can be a real gamechanger for children if they have the opportunity to be supported by someone they can build a rapport with. Continuing to role out awareness sessions in schools on children's rights, support services etc. Opportunities for peer support, anti-bullying, motivational speakers, etc well help our children to build resilience and be inspired. Increasingly online safety is so important.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	strongly agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	In favour of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	All sounds quite positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	A good idea to keep local children within WL.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This sounds like a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Absence levels within social policy are incredibly high with a very high staff turnover. Continuing to make cuts to social policy puts our most vulnerable at even greater risk. The system is creaking as it is with the current staff levels and there is a risk to be able to fulfil statutory requirements with further cuts to personnel. Morale cannot be high as the service also went through a significant cost saving exercise the last time round too. The authority remains reliant on external providers delivering care for the most vulnerable children when local resource is exhausted. It is a false economy to make efficiencies in this area only to then pay a private provider for care services which should be in house. Again, any restructure requires highly skilled staff experienced in social policy work and it remains unclear if the skillset exists within the local authority. Increasing foster options makes sense and I agree with this approach but this has been proposed for a long-time with little impact or change. Other local authorities invest in this area and WLC seem to be lagging behind.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Great idea. Early intervention is key	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agreechildren should be in foster care if possible....not in institutions and foster carers are properly supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This sounds like a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Should be considered	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with the above	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Total support with all above	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Argee	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Totally agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	A streamlining of support services would make accessing relevant supports much easier for parents/carers and educators. Reduced staffing in terms of the number of individuals involved with children may not be a bad thing, however it is vital the council continues to ensure all services are able to meet the needs of the communities they serve.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am not sure how savings can be made here. I support the savings but the care for children needs to be given.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Ok that sounds like a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with this review, children are the most vulnerable in our communities and we need to put their needs first	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	A more connected approach is always beneficial for children at risk, if this can be streamlined and ensure no reduction to service for those in need of service then this would enable some budget cut. I believe this will be difficult to maintain statutory legal requirements whilst maintaining service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Increase foster care yes, but, make sure those who will go onto foster are regularly visited ! I've known foster carers who treat the children in their care worse than animals and THIS should never happen !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with more foster placements being provided in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These challenging times bring different social pressures. Can only be in favour of a proposal that helps those most at risk.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would be worried about decreasing the numbers of social workers available they have a vital role. ; ; Some proposals sound interesting and would like to hear more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Provide the service that required. If that gives a saving great. But service is what is required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would suggest that any risk of service failure arising from the revised approach be thoroughly assessed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree that services need reviewed however savings might not be possible without a negative impact on the support available for vulnerable children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Is adherence to statutory (legal) requirements the most that WLC should be doing? It is good that attempts for strengthening are indicated for the range of fostering options in WL. What are the exact parameters for this saving of £1.2 million?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	'Supporting children most at risk' shows good intent and responsibility. Of course at the other end there might be an impetus to encourage exceptional pupils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree, however the cost of sending children to school in taxi's is something that should be looked at.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Am sure this could be achieved and not to the detriment of the kids ...too many services and overlaps as a children's panel member for over 17 years I saw lots of disjointed and duplicate services ...and lots of opportunities to streamline and focus on early intervention	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree as long as staff not stretched too much but that kids get the help needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	increase in fostering is a good thing, keeping them in their local area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	You are stating reducing staff levels while social work is currently understaffed based on the waiting time and reaction times. I agree of a review and that early intervention would be necessary. But it may be better to strengthen the communication channels between the education and social sector.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Foster care is a good way to go.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Streamlined teams are good but there surely still needs to be investment to improve this service as per your proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It seems there needs to be a restructure. When families ask for help they are not getting it except from school staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as it isn't placing vulnerable kids in units.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	In theory this is a good idea but would need to be tested. ; ; How can we ensure that needs of children are sufficiently met in all respects?; ; How can we encourage and support fostering at large?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I have a child with a disability and would like to see more support in our community, as we have to travel regularly outwith our community for help with our son.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This would need to be looked at very carefully- support for children is on the increase and the schools need more support from other agencies to support children with the increasing inclusion agenda.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good idea as long as outcomes are measured and QCed against previous performance to ensure that the savings havent affected those children who are care experienced as they have reduced life quality.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds ok, I think the amount foster carers get is far too much, I know people who think it's easy money and better than working	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Always a struggle to recruit foster carers. So many extremely challenging/vulnerable children. Current system not working	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would support the increase of provision for vulnerable children in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As long as these children do not suffer more trauma anything to help them can only be a good thing. I feel that in some cases the children may need to be moved out of the area for their own safety & mental health, this would need to be decided depending on each case	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	'Streamlined' but offering the same service? Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Trauma focused services will save money on the long term.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds ok but how do you save money by doing this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Fully support this measure, especially the fostering options. It will be great if more options can be provided in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with this proposal children should be on family homes as long as carers are well supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Aligning teams more closely sounds good if it means those with different responsibilities working better together for vulnerable young people. Hopefully it doesn't mean stretching staff beyond their capabilities and asking people to do more than they are already dealing with.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Child wellbeing and protection should remain at the present funding levels minimum, if there are ares to tighten up and become more effective then yes, however not at the risk to vulnerable children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with this as long as foster carers are supported properly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Ensure foster carers are doing this for the correct reasons.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is a good plan but there are people who would like to foster kids who have brought up their own children who would no be accepted	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds good but would like to see the review outcomes before commenting .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	With the problems children face and a Social Policy in crisis the idea of more foster carers seems a credible option.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This video started a great way to help people and we also need the services available	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Anyone who is in foster care to ha w the best possible environment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This has been long overdue however my concern is that there may still be children put in danger due to neglect	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This looks good on paper but may need further details to understand whether this will degrade services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Poor provision for children with disabilities. Any improvement is welcome.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree to strengthening foster options to keep children in same council area	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social care for vulnerable children must be kept in some form	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think this is needed. What could also be put in place is more awareness of the risks of child's disability during pregnancy as West Lothian seems to have a very large amount of disabled children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds OK in theory if it all works to benefit the children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Very important and hopefully no compromised after savings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There just isnt enough foster carers in west lothian to start with.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As previously mentioned ., there is alot of middle assistant manager positions where one person could oversee the full area	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Early intervention is good..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is amazing . These children; Need as much support and help; They can get so I'm 100% in favour; Of this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	West lothian does not pay extra to cope with increased costs of caring for a child with a disability. Will this also be reviewed and an enhanced fee applied?; Services within the community need to be reviewed to support these placements (outreach & regular engaging activities especially for disabled teens)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This sounds like a great proposal but will only work if children's interest if there are all the available resources and families available that they might need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds good but again how is that going to save money if done properly and why wasn't it being done before.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am all for keeping kids in their own areas so they do not loose contact with friends and family that they are permitted too. Some parents need a good kick up the you know what and there needs to be more services available to help families who have needed and asked for them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Any investment in foster care is worth while and hopefully provides longer term savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	We like the increasing the foster care but where are these people to be found ; While there maybe some move to have more overlapping of services why has it taken to now Please remember the problems some of these at risk children have suffered and the effect they have in schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agreed, but a voluntary committee made up of past/present foster parents and Social work professionals need to have input to ensure a smooth operation of this vital service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If the Council can manage to reduce the number of children having to leave their home community to be cared for, that is to be welcomed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This sounds good, we need to create more strong families	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is a needed change too many of our social care for children and young people is provided via private organisations. I feel that this is not a service that should be privatised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I support rearranging teams to provide the most efficient service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with proposal- outcomes for children staying in WL	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I know outcomes of fostering, some got even more problems then actual parents. But some can save life of a child. It is very difficult to judge	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree partly - don't lose staff unless being relocated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Fully support all of the goals outlined with the exception of reducing numbers of staff in an area that is already nationally recognised as being chronically under-resourced with trained professionals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Any reduction in staffing in this area is a bad idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	So where are the savings coming from. All i see is strengthen fostering options. Where are the cuts. More politic speak and no truth	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Staff cuts by any other name. Is the target to increase the number of foster carers realistic?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Never enough.; Perhaps early intervention spending would help in the long run - support families in crisis earlier and better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Prevention is so necessary for good outcomes so protecting only those at risk may reduce good outcomes for children who may have responded to intervention at an earlier stage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	But what will be lost? Not clear where the savings will come from or what the impact will be to some of the most vulnerable children in society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	social policy is always redesigning or amalgamating teams' services etc again like teachers they are stressed with workloads hence the failures across social services we see through the court systems public enquiries etc. if they are given enough staff then the job and service, they can provide will be excellent.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can reducing staff in an area like this be a good thing?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This seems to be taking money away from those who need it most.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	i can see this going way over budget while under performing its task by chucking money at carers and there building/ transport needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am not sure how you can "maintain its focus on supporting children most at risk and providing earlier intervention services in line with statutory (legal) requirements." by cutting staffing levels- it seems you are expecting to achieve more with less which is a good trick but is it actually achievable? I have no experience of this service area but would expect that staff already working there do not think this can be achieved.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There is currently minimal evidence of truly inclusive early intervention and a further alignment of teams would also be a no thank you. Is cost cutting more important than health and wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can you develop and expand services and still have to make a £1.2M Saving!?!? We are affecting the lives of vulnerable people when what we should be doing, is encouraging them, giving them access to services, being pro-active, working with schools..... Involve the voice of the young people and the individuals that access these services!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Unclear how a review of Social Policy children's services, achieving redesigned/aligned teams - and a reduction in staff - can also achieve a strengthening of the range of fostering options available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Although I have no direct knowledge of this area, I would believe a £1.2 million cut to support for the most "at risk" children in West Lothian is a highly risky strategy. I would place these potential savings at the bottom of the to do list.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Dont see how you can do this - its basically just loosing staff from what I can see	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Good luck with this. Social workers are stressed to the max currently and you are streamlining teams!?! If you pull off getting more quality foster carers then that's a positive, but don't just throw money at them!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Staff are already struggling with the volume of work and case loads, the reduction in staffing levels will just add more pressure and staff taking time off due to stress.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Giving in one hand whilst taking away from the other. Robbing Peter to pay Paul. Sound familiar? It looks as though you're going to fund additional front-line care, but at the cost of the crucial back-up and support that families need from local government in order to actually be able to make a positive difference in children's lives. Or am I missing something?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These teams are already on their knees and over-worked! Again reducing staffing is not the answer here!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing should not result in gaps in already stretched services. We have seen issues in England where horrific situations have been allowed to develop due to cuts in these crucial areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It may be difficult to streamline while improving the service provision to this critical area. Childhood is the foundation to building a successful adult life. £1.2 million seems an optimistic saving for this area and careful consideration will be required to ensure that the service provision meets the requirements of this critical area of children in crisis	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This needs to start going back to basics, the council have been failing the society it serves for over a decade now. ; More responsibility needs to be given to those on charge of delivering social services, and more push back to the Scottish govt needs to happen to change the ridiculous laws that is destroying the communities we live in	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Stop hiring part-time social workers and hire personnel that will not only have the children's well-being in their focus but that of the people who agree to look after them, also stop paying 3rd party agencies extortionate fees to do the jobs that we pay the social workers to do..	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am a kinship carer of my niece and the help we received from social work is abysmal. They are over worked, under paid and not really there as a unit. We had to do a lot for ourselves and I also had to fight for months to receive any kinship payment. Having a child of my own was hard enough but to take another on, with hardly any support is not an ideal situation. These kids are far too precious and more important and need the support of social work and foster carers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This sounds awful. How can you have less people doing the same amount of work and ensure good outcomes? More Foster families and increased galp and training means more cost NOT less. Also the way Scotland and the UK is going you will need more staff in order to keep children safe. Remember, you Have a duty of care for Your staff wellbeing as well as the childrens.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This seems like an area that should not be reduced at a time when there are cost of living issues as it is going to be more critical and could result in more children 'slipping through the net'	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staffing once again, streamling services, jargon for cut backs in services that are necessary and in short supply as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think we already know what happens when staffing levels are reduced and team take on more workloads. The real time a staff member spend with children at risk is greatly reduced and kids fall through the gaps. Then when something horrific happens an enquiry is launched and for what? Saving some cash rather than having the right number of staff for the job!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Unclear how strengthening support, though welcomed, will lead to Savings of £1.2 million	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Staff cuts then?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Leave this alone as I know it will be needed by more familys in coming years	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Never undrperstood how reducing staff improves the child's experiences	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing will put vulnerable children at risk	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't see how cutting staff will help children at risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social services do not have enough staff to efficiently ensure the safety and care of vulnerable children redesigning/aligning (another word for cuts) will only serve for a poorer service not a better one	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social services appear stretched at the moment with lengthy waits to access services. Can only see this as making the situation worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	All client groups are entitled to receive support to meet assessed eligible needs.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I suspect that your idea of efficient services does not actually in reality prove effective for those working for you or in care. Social workers and others staffed with looking after children are overworked and/or under valued as it is. The only outcome of this saving will be further trauma and grief for the young people who find themselves and their families in need of such services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's services can not be cut, it is unrealistic to say you will increase Foster carers, when Foster placements are currently very limited. Please put money in to respite nd residential services instead. Parents who are carers are crying out for respite more than they are for foster carers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I do not have adequate understanding of the service but this seems like it would have a negative impact on some of the most vulnerable children. Increasing wait times and case loads for staff and putting children at risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I'm unsure how you think you can save that amount of money but provide more options.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, what actual changes? We need specifics. Without more detail I can't tell if the plan is to reduce staff and funding to CDS. There is already a massive funding gap to this service with families in crisis waiting years for assessment only to find there are no services available to support the needs of their child. Specifically, ASD and ADHD services in West Lothian are non existent.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	'Streamlining' and 'reduced staffing' in such matters does not sound co ducive to improvement of services for children. If anything you should be spending more and not saving money???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Making Social Policy's services for children are vital and WLC would do well to remember and understand to diverse experiences of those children involved. These children dont fit a pattern and an individual approach is warranted more often than not. The service requires flexibility and funding not narrowing. There is possibly an argument to be made for some internal reorganisation, staff training and accountability without the blame culture.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can cutting funding in this area help the children involved?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If placements breakdown because carer's aren't supported the very children you're claiming to do this for, will suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There's already a lack of foster carers, never mind carers able to provide "intensive" support. ; This may read well, but it's not that simple. ; The desperation to make your plan fit could encourage carers for the wrong reasons. And the support and training they would require, will be costly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Is this reducing staffing at the lower end of scale or more middle / upper management.?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Staff are already stretched and case loads are over capacity how can you even consider reducing staff numbers. What you can do is look at your management structure and reduce the amount of managers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	More savings which impact children. Easy target for a council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is an area that is drastically underfunded to begin with. This should not be an area where any savings are made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again how will saving £1.2 million help deliver a better service?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	With one exception, WLC has closed residential children's homes and in my experience this has had a detrimental impact on some children/young people in the care system as well as their Foster Carers and their families. The Family Placement Team provides great support for Foster Carers but the Social Work support for families/children/young people can be erratic with some SWs doing a fantastic job but others.... Is this due to already tight staffing levels? What impact will that have on what appears to be already stretched departments?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Is this not just going to put extra pressure on services which if they're anything like elsewhere in the country are already over stretched? My observations elsewhere is that this leads to staff going off sick, putting extra pressure on the rest of teams, and leading to staff leaving for other posts. If there's the spare capacity in the system to do this then great, but what are the risks?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I feel social policy staffing is already dreadfully stretched, reducing it further is putting vulnerable families and children at even more risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Previous savings suggestions were for taking away children's food, clothing and education (in other words basic needs). Another imbecilic idea is also to remove their welfare!?! Does this recommendation really want to reduce the funding for kids in foster care!?! This appears to be targeting the most vulnerable in our society and the one's with no voice.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Kids cannot be allowed to be lost in system and need more money not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would not suggest reduction in staff as more staff required i have seen people struggling in very difficult times	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Taking away those who are skilled in working with children is detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again more contradiction, saving £1.2 million cannot be the result of investing and increasing things. I think this is really saying that some services will be reduced and others will be amalgamated therefore making savings financially but not giving that better level of service West Lothian Council always profess they do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	So only the most traumatised children are going to be supported. The families out there that are working hard with their children, who may be struggling with behaviour, learning disabilities 3rd are to lose any little help they get!! This will inevitably lead to rises in anti social behaviour, children out of control in school etc. Already there are children in schools who should be supported and are not and teachers are having nurture groups...what will happen here? More children through the cracks	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children, not money, need to be the priority. Decisions should only be made if it is in the best interest of the child. There are already a lack of social workers for our most vulnerable. Staff are stretched too thin with too many case loads.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again reducing staff is a concern	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, another cut affecting children, these proposals are making me feel very uneasy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	"Efficiency" is too often jargon for reducing! These are children who need the most help and support and who currently do NOT receive enough. Waiting times for most services are horrendous, so to cut any money is ludicrous! We are a first world country!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Service is already stretched. Cutting staff will further erode the service to our most vulnerable young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Vulnerable children already slip through the net, a reduction in staffing levels in Social Policy could result in many missed cases.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Many children who need fostered should be removed from the area they are in for their own safety and development. How do you expect a child to thrive if they stay in an area where they will undoubtedly come into contact with family, extended family or others of whom they were at risk.; Fresh start and perhaps the space will allow for progress to be made	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Worrying comment about "reduced staffing".	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds like you want to replace qualified social workers with foster carers. Reducing staffing will lead to poorer outcomes for children at risk. It will also push responsibility onto school staff, who are not trained (not want to be) in social work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social services, like education, seems to be a service that is always cut when 'trimming the fat' exercises are to take place. Many families, due to the cost of living crisis and recovery from the pandemic will rely more heavily on social services in the next few years. Investment should be made, recognising the future need.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, negative thoughts. Teachers have to put knowledge to their heads. School supposed to be 2nd home not a kids auction by social service. Is this even real survey?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, staffing should be increased in any re-design. There is a social disaster looming due to the recession and social services are going to be facing a tsunami of families in crisis. We must do more as a council to help.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social policy are on another planet they have been no use to me or ma y family even when I needed them most. They need a good look at.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The waiting times for childrens services is worrying! By reducing staff you are increasing the risk of children and their mental health! Foster cares are needed as the horrendous home lives that poor children are having to endure is shocking!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The children have to have their needs met first, farming them out to other people does not give them security and stability, I realise that you have to save money but not at the expense of the child.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	All I read is cutting staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These teams are already struggling to deliver for the rising numbers of children with needs and the most vunrable in our schools.This will put lives and futures at risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staffing with this already struggling area is a huge mistake. More children will fall through the net and not be supported properly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These children need extra help not less staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These children need extra help not less staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Why are you foisting all these cuts on children. What the hell is wrong with you. Childrens services should be the very last thing we touch.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The effective service to these children must not be reduced. Sounds as though some children at the lower end of need will suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds like our most vulnerable children and young people need more funding and services available rather than having these cut. The saying, 'spend to save in the long run' comes to mind. Appreciate that services might need to be redesigned to ensure impact but concerned that social policy would only be able to respond to crisis situations rather than focusing on early intervention.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is just crazy. Social work is on their knees just now and there are so many children falling through the net because the funding isn't there. Squeezing it even more is not the answer. It will just leave many more vulnerable children in dire situations.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Stop using external care provisions such as Carevisions who charge 4K per week per child. Reinvest this in local authority care provision, create jobs and stop big companies profiteering from vulnerable young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, I would say no to cuts in staffing where children are concerned.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I do not agree with streamlining certain staff when it comes to delivering support for our most vulnerable children. Social workers and Health visitors are overworked and it is extremely difficult to meet with them due to their excessive schedules.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I believe this would be a false economy as more support in this area can help prevent issues in future years as the children affected become adults.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Don't understand how a saving would be made as currently services are overstretched and overworked, it is nearly impossible to get support for children when required and often staff are at breaking point dealing with issues that can't be coped with in mainstream settings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	redesigning and aligning teams more closely to deliver more streamlined teams and reduced staffing = less staff trying to do more work to compensate. This will increase stress and reduce efficiency. Safeguarding our children should be a top priority, with staff stress and overwork, important signs/ information may be missed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would be concerned if reducing staffing would end up meaning that early intervention for children at risk at any level would end up being poorer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It seems too good to be true. I'm afraid it will show as cuts in services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Have you got something against students because they cannot vote? Where are the extra Foster carers coming from if there is a reduction in the budgets supporting them?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	From what I can see on social media, this area needs more funding not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Caring for a child with a disability is not to be a target for cost cutting. Already west lothian does not provide enough appropriate placements for disabled children. If children are to be brought back to WL from a provision outwith the area, it should only ever be on a like for like provision service, looking at the whole impact on that child's life, education and wellbeing. This is not something to be glossed over, and it would require thorough and robust training - ongoing - and also monitoring and support for any families who are able to offer a placement to a vulnerable child with a disability.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Similar to section 1D I would submit that any impact on young people should be minimised indeed increased	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff again. It's disappointing that the management can't see how stressed out and de-moralised the staff already are. Reducing staff is just another way of saying making redundancies. How can we say that the service provision won't be affected when it already is?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is impossible to meet the needs of our children. This 'multi agency' approach does not work when schools cannot get in touch with anyone/ endless waiting lists - taking money away from these services is a disaster waiting to happen and the wellbeing of our children should never be put on the line.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	children's services are already stretched with far too few staff and families waiting for far too long. reducing staff is not acceptable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's services are already reduced with wait times far too long.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If the focus is on "supporting children most at risk" what does this mean for other children as a lesser risk? It sounds as though the proposals may increase the risk to children who are not being perceived as "most at risk" which increases likelihood of more situations reaching a critical point. Very worrying.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Also, how will a strengthening of the range of fostering options happen? This is very vague. This is something that social work have been trying to work towards anyway	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	My work involves links to Children & Families Social work and I fail to see how this would improve things.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	this raises concerns about the quality of care the children would receive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Investment in vulnerable children should be first and foremost. I'm unclear on how cutting staff but increasing foster carers would cost less;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This would likely put more workload burden on fewer people leading to bad outcomes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No cuts to vital life saving, safe guarding systems. Cut the bonuses not the services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This seems to suggest that those in "the middle" will; Once again miss out. The most serious cases give. Investment and those who don't meet requirements, less supported.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not sure how reducing staff will lead to a better service, unless lower risk children no longer qualify? I'm, all for providing a better service to the most traumatised children, but lets not forget about the countless others who may seem stable but are living close to the poverty line	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again with this, you shouldn't be making cuts here these children deserve every penny to help them they've already had it too hard or they wouldn't be here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This needs investment and not cost cuts. Children should not be neglected by corporate parenting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How are you going to increase the foster care options while not increasing the cost?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not keen on these efficiencies. They will only lead to the most vulnerable in society being worse off.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Cut the staff at the top, not the bottom	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	this is already an underfunded service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can a foster system be improved by reducing the budget? Children in care need more support and additional budget to help them reach their full potentials	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	By reducing staff you provide less. I fear that money will be wasted on the "development" of the new options that we may not be in a position to deliver.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is very difficult to get any social work support currently unless there is an ongoing crisis. Would our social policy service be able to do any work beyond statutory? This would be a further cut to a service that is very much needed in West Lothian. Early intervention would be great but the demand is so strong that by the time an intervention is put in place it is anything but early.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again your looking to reduce staffing numbers, you can't provide vital services if you have no staff; In regards to fostering; I think fostering is an amazing thing to do and West Lothian would have more foster parents if your selection criteria wasn't so strict I understand you need to have measures in place for safety etc but you need to consider families that have maybe been through the system and have lived lives of trauma in some way also as these people can make fantastic foster parents as they have had to live that life growing up	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As a staff member that has worked with disadvantage children the key time is when they are at school as well. ; Further development in this area is a great investment but also I feel development needs to be for the families as well.; Shouldn't we be investing in supporting the reason behind why our children end up being fostered ; Prevention rather than reaction strategy	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am concerned that the number of social workers would be reduced, there aren't enough as it is. This would result in an increased workload for all and a reduction in the service they can provide.; I do agree that efficiencies in the current system and structure need to be found but would be concerned that reducing staff is a very short term fix!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	We seem top heavy on senior workers in Social Policy. If the frontline teams were better resourced, it would reduce the need to have as many senior staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social policy only works if linked with NHS - the fact the council failed to facilitate a surgery in Winchburgh indicates they are not fit for purpose when it comes to social care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This services is already struggling and the support children receive and the tins they have to wait to receive it is shocking. Again stop reducing staff. Improve services!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children who are disruptive with no underlying health conditions get much more help than children with disabilities whether its school , days out, treats, free stuff, social work help and so on. This is a huge complaint amongst parents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The services are stretched as it is and need more funding for staff, my son is disabled and we haven't seen a person to assist his transition due to Covid and the policy of over the phone is still in place so staff can't make proper judgements on the children. We also had to wait about 1 and a half to 2 year accessing the team and about as long to be assessed for adults services and all is over a telephone, so no cutting services further will be disastrous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	'reduced staffing' = redundancies? ; 'efficiency' = cuts? ; The fact that the most vulnerable children in West Lothian are going to face cuts of any level (let alone £1.2 million) is a shameful reflection on our council and the state of our nation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As a parent who was followed around for over a year.. wrongly .. and with no apologies afterwards.. I'd happily get rid of social services.. let them concentrate on foster kid placements that would be a good thing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	is the council not intervening at the earliest stage? "The service will maintain its focus on supporting children most at risk and providing earlier intervention services in line with statutory (legal) requirements" - this portrays that the council are not currently meeting legal requirements; - are staff expected to work more if headcount reduces and teams are more targeted?; - this presents issues in that areas may be missed, and vulnerable people could be left out of the system	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Stop the suggestions that disadvantage children, they need more help not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This sounds like an increase in costs is required - I don't get any feel from the words that gives any confidence that over a million pounds can be cut from the Children Services budget. This one worries me.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again trimming funding for the most vulnerable children in our community is poor, and will only lead to an additional cost burden in later year (from a financial rather than moral perspective).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children who require more support should be able to receive this. Staffing should not be reduced when it comes to children or social care. Children are vulnerable at any age at any point in any place and their safety and wellbeing is a vital service. It should not be in question. The quality of staff and their ability to fulfill the roll of child services should be maintained to the highest standard. Services to children should be increased not decreased. If the review does indeed make it safe better and more efficient then 100%. Do not let children suffer as a result of the cost reducing measures.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There does not currently seem to be enough people to run these services properly at the moment. I believe reducing staffing would be counter productive,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These services are already understaffed and this sounds as though it runs the risk of increasing burn out in remaining staff. Cuts and reducing staff in this sector is unlikely to benefit either staff or the children it aims to serve and protect.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	When you reduce the services available to ANY vulnerable people, the results can be catastrophic. Increasing foster carers can only help if they are fully trained. I would imagine training these people would lead to an increase in their income so, again, I fail to see how the estimated saving could be realised.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think the redesigning and alignment of Social Policy teams more closely to deliver more streamlined teams that will result in a reduction of staffing will result in work load issues for staff in schools especially for senior leaders in schools. Although the service will maintain it's focus on supporting children most at risk this will not be enough to support all the children and families in the school community. I feel post pandemic that a lot of our families in the most deprived areas are struggling with for example mental health and there is not enough support at present therefore any reduction in social policy staffing will have implications for all staff in schools when managing the most vulnerable families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The number of children needing support has increased. What benefit of reducing the services already there going to have for these children? You already struggle to get foster carers, how are you going to increase the number without any funding? Job cuts are not the answer but seems to be a theme throughout this survey! Children with disabilities are a bigger responsibility. Can we not support the families more to become better parents, teaching parent behaviour and skills. Not saying that some children should be removed from their situation, but some are down to not having the skills to be a safe and caring parent as they never had that experience themselves	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The impact on children already using these services is significant. Further distribution will have a negative impact on their lives and mental health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Supporting children by cutting staff. Oxymoronic.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Teams are already stretched beyond breaking point and to reduce the number of staff seems a strange option - we have more families needing support than ever before, but are pulling support?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Any cutbacks to childrens services in a disgrace in this modern society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think that it is imperative that children's services are expanded rather than reduced. There are many young people desperate for support but lack of staff make it a challenge for them to receive the support that they require.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	less staffing always impacts services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can reducing this budget by over £1million , strengthen the service ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children services are already stretched and waiting times too long with children falling through the gaps, at present nothing is done until it reaches crisis how will cutting staffing help this. Early intervention is key but until there are services and staffing to support this it will continue to support crisis care only. How will you attract people to fostering, intensive fostering - will there be respite in place to support fostering families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Cutting these services increases the work load on staff and the risk to children this should be avoided if possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If you are proposing to reduce staff, what does this mean the reduced workforce will need to stop delivering	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Also, how a reduction in the number of social workers can be beneficial? However, perhaps if they weren't working from home and being in the area and available when needed might be helpful	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am concerned that the reduction in these services, particularly staffing, will have a negative impact on already disadvantaged young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Don't punish children that already suffering.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff what impact will this have on the service being provided?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't understand how already overstretched teams can be streamlined whilst still promoting childrens safety. This sounds very dangerous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	streamlining to me means cutting staff so how can that possibly help with the support offered to the children?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This service should not be reduced if some children will miss out due to prioritising the most at risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There is nowhere to trim in this area. Some years ago I contacted the SWD to get help for my child with a Disability and after several attempts I gave up, no-one got back to me. I have friends who have adopted a child and the process was help up by a lack of staff adding extra anxiety to a complex issue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	"At Risk" children are already being missed. Please do not cut staffing numbers in this area	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There should not be any staff removal as people need onetime contact when there are any issues involving children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	need more not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not enoughFoster caters just now to provide home to children needing them and the quality of some are not great	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	From personal experience with children services, social workers seem to be overworked and reducing staffing would have a detrimental effect on services and will definitely need much consultation with service users so they understand what will happen	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is beyond belief, we need to support services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think more money needs to be invested in this not cur.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Don't understand how this will create a saving as strengthening Foster families & ensuring there are sufficient staff with the necessary qualifications will cost money. Doubt reducing staff will mean children can access the help needed in a safe and timely manner.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	this is not an area where saving need to be met - it is an area we should be investing in	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff in an area already struggling is completely wrong. Streamline yes, but add staff and takeaway middle managers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, the proposal above does not give details of where the cuts would come from. These teams are already overworked, families in need are not being supported. The line about supporting in line with statutory requirements concerns me, most children are not in the statutory system, further, it feels that West Lothian waits too late to put children into the statutory system. If the focus is moving to be entirely on those pupils there will be serious issues for our children and young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is not clear from this how reduced staffing would meet these aims. Care-experienced young people are among the most marginalised in society, with porter attainment and progression. How does that fit with cutting their staff contacts? 'Redesigning and realigning' does not fit with producing those one to one relationships that are so important for our care-experienced young folk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These all read like a manifesto of wonderful promises, belied by the massive 'savings' you can make to them. Tell me, have we been woefully overspending on massive inefficiencies for the last 12 years of SNP government so much that you can claw back all this money, and still pretend we're getting first class services? Definitely, let's deprive traumatised children of more funding. That's a real vote winner	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can the service maintain its focus if it is running on reduced resources??? How will you develop and increase foster careers with reduced staffing to do this???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This needs more thought put into it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There are already great pressures on this service and limited time to engage with families/carers who really need this support. This cannot be cut back any further to ensure success of impact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I'm concerned that streamlining and reducing staffing would again impact the services ability to respond appropriately and in a timely manner in some situations. I do support the strengthening of the range of foster options available, but I dont see how that can be done by reducing the money available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Educational Ps in schools teaching Play therapy not always value for money. Assistants could be trained to do play therapy in schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The social services are already over-stretched as it is and are very difficult to get in touch with. They also do not seem to chase issues up or communicate well after education have raised issues with certain children in school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with children remaining in their local community however the only way to encourage more people to be foster carers in to make the post more attractive which to me would mean a more realistic salary for a job that is 24 hours per day/7 days a week. More support from link workers and respite periods.; I have worked with the Council for almost 30 years and there has always been a shortage of foster carers - it is not a job that I could do regardless of the salary but it is a job that needs to be done.; More support for Kinship carers would also allow family members to look after young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	So children who are already suffering are going to be made to suffer more? A service that is already stretched to beyond maximum is going to be stretched even more? Well done WLC, well done, you are surpassing yourselves is the disgrace stakes even more than you could have before.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	By point 1G, we are already totally over £8M in "savings" from support, services and resources which directly impact children and young people. ; I'm hugely concerned that this is sugar coated way of saying cost cutting as opposed to savings dressed up as to mislead people that what being done is new ways of working. ; It's putting people out of work and impacting our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff will not help support. Teams are already stretched far beyond what is manageable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No to this aswell for many reasons we are the parents i don't agree to giving council more power over our children theirs a line that shouldn't ever be crossed given the past 2 years of power grabbing by governments and other entity's absolutely not	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not sure how you support children at most risk by reducing staffing, but it will apparently save £1.2 million, so I guess if vulnerable kids fall through the cracks - and they will - you saved a few pennies. If you are increasing the number of specialist foster carers, that would be expensive - I can't see how you can be saving money??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Why save on this? Savings can be made on spending too long dealing with kids that simply need to be told straight to sort their act out YET there are many that require help and I only imagine this plan will further them from mainstream society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Early intervention is essential for supporting families , enabling them to stay together and assist schools and communities in supporting future generations. I would be concerned further cut backs would prove significantly more costly in the long term?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I really feel that more funding should be allocated to social services. I feel there needs to be more support given to vulnerable children, young people and adults. I think the definition of those 'most at risk' needs to be reconsidered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These services are already on their knees and struggle to function due to a lack of staffing and underfunding. The further reduction would be equivalent to scrapping these programs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staffing in this area is a huge mistake. Vulnerable kids wait far too long for help, and are missed left, right and centre as it is. Strengthening and expanding fostering services surely comes at a bigger cost than the saving made for reducing the service?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Streamlining children services who are already stretched to maximum runs the risk of our most vulnerable children, at best, not being supported or at worst a name in a newspaper after a horrendous incident. I would not want to be the person who allows this to happen and everything that can be done should be done to protect these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, is it currently working? Will it be any better by cutting £1.2 million? Of course not.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Insufficient information provided to ascertain whether increased foster parenting opportunity will fill the gaps caused by reducing staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is code for cutting staff numbers at a time when vulnerable young people need support. This is unfair to the staff who are left and they will start to leave the service as has been happening with nurses in the NHS.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would be concerned about any further cuts to social work. I see this as an area in desperate requirement of extra funding and would be alarmed at the impact further cuts may have on the most vulnerable children and families in West Lothian. I would be interested in finding out how the fostering options will be strengthened, and how the council will make this work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff is a huge mistake it compromises quality.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing? Lots of teams are already stretched	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reads as if you will be providing more with less money which cannot be the case, very misleading. Do not support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Focussing on most high risk is short sighted. Please ensure that the strategy for social services is pro-active, not reactive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If a saving of 1.2 million is to be made in this area, I think a clear breakdown on how this is going to be done should be provided. Simply by saying 'reviewing social policy' is not enough. Does this just mean you are going to cut staffing so cuts cost?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I think support services are already very stretched with lots of children and families unfortunately not receiving the support they require. It worries me about more cuts to this service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Need more services not a reduction.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, we should ensure reduced staffing does neither impact the children in need of support or result in unmanageable workload for staff who become unable to fulfil their duties	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staffing in this area is a terrible idea. With current financial difficulties more and more strain is going to be put on families who are already struggling and this is more likely to increase the needs/demands for children's services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The savings you propose are large.; Odd that you are not doing this already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Do not agree with reducing staff numbers as outlined earlier.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Would be concerned about any measure that reduced staff further in already vital support services for our most vulnerable young people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Why is reduced staffing helpful? Could staff not be placed on more appropriate teams?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social services needs more funding, free/low cost training should be provided to willing foster parents who want to foster all children which covers children with disabilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	They cannot manage as is ; How is this feasible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This seems to be taking money away from those who need it most.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Services protected for children and young adults at risk	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	breakfast clubs must be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Dont see how you can do this - its basically just loosing staff from what I can see	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	kids lose even more	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If it works as it is why change it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Shocking	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No changes are required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't know much on this situation, but this does sound beneficial to the children involved.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I disagree with cutting costs in services for children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is ridiculous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How will reducing staff help these services? Which staff will be reduced?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These services for some of our most vulnerable members of our communities are already understaffed and over stretched. My opinion is that this is a very dangerous reduction to make and quite frankly could cost the lives of already vulnerable children!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Early intervention and prevention are key, and it is vital these proposals do not detrimentally impact on West Lothian's ability to meet the aspirations of The Promise and ensure support to all children and families is available when needed, particularly those on the edges of care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, a higher cut in an area that affects the wellbeing of the children in the local authority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again I think this would be to the detriment of children who need our support any changes need to be carefully managed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This may be difficult to achieve with staffing stretched to breaking point already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is also an area where I know they are struggling for staff and the staff have too much workload this is also an extremely important service which can cause real harm for the children and families who need it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's services are stretched at present and you must make sure that reduced staffing levels do not affect their health and well being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am unsure about this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing in such an essential service could lead to vulnerable children to fall through the net. Already these services are stretched and to reduce people even more could have negative consequences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Funding should not be cut here. Services are already struggling and at maximum capacity so this should not be facing cuts but provided with support to help vulnerable young people more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	the phrase "in line with statutory requirements" is a worry. They are minimums and the caring society that we live even should not drop to match the just legal definaition.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Young people in West lothian are currently on massive waiting lists to access specialist services that are completely over loaded so a reduction in such services would be detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children must be a priority and far more so than the delivery of the Cycle route in Linlithgow at at cost of over £300k to the council. People would generally need a car to get there, its not the safest roads to cycle and will only help a minority of people. Certainly hasn't been thought out	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Please be aware that many services for children are already on thin ice, inclusion support for example. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Staff members within many of the teams appear to be really struggling at the moment and have lost their passion for their job as a result. This means they cannot provide the best support to children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Yes re structure but only for the better not for a cost saving	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would watch this one as far to many children slip through the net.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Stripping down departments pertaining to child protection. What exactly are you people smoking?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not supportive, already too many kids in need and not enough solutions	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	CONTINUE AS ISS	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can you strengthen a service by reducing what it does. These are our most vulnerable citizens and we shouldn't be looking for savings in these areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The authority needs to be more creative and not short-sighted; it will continue to lose money and good staff if it only ever works within a deficit model, and not from a point of empowering families or building strong relationships.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There have been many reductions already in this area, and we can already see the impact this is having in how quickly we can deliver services, the length of waiting lists, and when agencies are referring in.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am very concerned that only certain groups are being prioritised here, it is a very shallow model and will cause issues in the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Which services will be realigned? Will some service provision stop? Early intervention to prevent situations developing is a key strategy to reduce need further down the line. I fully appreciate the need in crisis situations and in the long term health & wellbeing of LAC however that urgency of need will absolutely not be addressed by diluting early intervention provision. Which, I suspect, is where your "savings" would come from unfortunately.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This area needs investment to ensure children are safe, well cared for and their life chances are not negatively impacted. Only aiming to meet statutory requirements is simply not good enough. Getting it right in this area should be a massive priority for the council and will also have a positive impact on many areas of the West Lothian community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	it is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	it is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	it is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	this is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	it's important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	System does not work now yet you want to reduce staff and hope to employ more Foster parents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This feels like a saving you probably don't want to make - changes elsewhere may well be less painful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These positions actually require more support and better pay	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I have no experience of this sector at all but strongly believe reducing employee numbers seems counter-intuitive to the goals you're trying to achieve.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduce fostering fees	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	So more pay offs shocking	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can streamlining teams and reduce staffing possibly achieve further efficiency utter nonsense	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can staffing be reduced on an already full service. We need to ensure the funds are spent in the right areas. If improvements can be made, then great but how is reducing staff going to help.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Should be no savings as children that need help should get it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Dont agree with reduced staffing in childrens services, they are already stretched	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Given the current workloads of Social Workers and issues in supporting our most vulnerable children I fail to see how savings of this amount can be made whilst strengthening and developing the support. Again, another unclear proposal of how the savings will actually impact the service provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again I believe cutting costs from an already stretched social policy budget will lead to children being missed by the service with disastrous consequences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Can only invest in fostering if people come forward to be foster carers. Need to get more fosters.; Cutting social work resource is not a good idea, they are needed and need to be there early on in a family/child.; Social workers already come across as not doing anything.; Issue in Blackburn with kids setting fires and social worker involvement is already happening with kids but nothing seems to be done.; Kid involved with this was treated to MacDonalds afterwards, so they are kind of rewarded for bad behaviour.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Foster care now means your family suffers financial hardship to help another kid. it's not sustainable anymore	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staffing in social work for children is a terrible idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	So which children will be adversely affected by this proposal or have we to guess?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Same as before how can you achieve this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing the number of specialised staff experienced in this area of services for children could result in a fractured service. Reliance on growing the foster care service puts a greater strain on families. Running a service as essential as this with a trimmed down staff could become undeliverable intimes of eg a pandemic or where there are staff on long term sick.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	At the moment referrals to Children's Services are made with the knowledge that there is a long waiting list for appointments and consultations. Social Services are stretched very thin so again I wonder how reducing numbers of staff will serve the children that the council is there to support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	In my role as a special needs teacher I am responsible for a group of S6 pupils who will be leaving school next June. In order to access the services they will require as adults they need the support from Social Policy and the input of a social worker. I have recently been meeting with the parents of these S6 pupils and many of them are very concerned that they are on a waiting list for a social worker and have been for a considerable time.; Without the input of a social worker parents begin to make arrangements for their children. Many of the adult service providers will not engage with parents until they have that input. This is very upsetting for parents who want to make provision for their children and provide a continuity of care.; There are also children in school who are in the care system but currently have no social worker due to lack of staff. Any further cuts to staff in this vital service will harm our most vulnerable young people, those with special needs and those in care. DO NOT CUT FUNDING TO VITAL SOCIAL POLICY STAFF.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If we were a private entity we have to look at VFM	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social Policy employees already have low morale and are completely stretched. Staff retention will be hugely affected by a reduction in budget of £1.2 million.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How many foster carers in West Lothian have undertaken any trauma informed or child development training in the last few years?; Containing children in a loving nurturing environment and providing a safe space and therapy is what I believe is needed. alongside therapeutic support and robust training for foster carers and social policy staff alike.; Investing in this area is what I would wish for west Lothian's children and families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	with population increasing rapidly in west lothian due to the number of housing developments ongoing, how can reducing staff be a positive move.; less staff to deal with a larger population is only going to lead to less support for people who really need it. i agree that an increase in foster families would be a positive but the council have been trying to encourage families to foster for years.; where are these additional foster carers going to come from when there isn't enough to provide an adequate service at present.; cost of living crisis will only have an adverse effect of increasing foster families as people are struggling to support their own families without taking on additional responsibility	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There should be no reduction in children and families social workers as this will result in larger case loads for social workers and increased risk to children. How can services do early intervention when there is not sufficient staff in place?; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	SWs need supported with better training and knowledge to deliver services and work across Children's Hearings and ensure if there is a reduction in staffing they are confident in their approach and taking cases for children forward to work with families. This will permit them to carry a larger case load and prioritise sufficiently to minimise the risk to children. Understanding SW practice, legal framework etc can suffer in times of pressure and where WL recruit less experienced staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If the focus is on the "children most at risk" what is happening to the children that are deemed at a lesser risk?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This may bring problems in the future!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The fostering proposals sound good but it would be more important to have the views of foster carers; For the first paragraph see my answer to 1A. I find it difficult to believe (knowing the situation in the health service) that there is much in the way of efficiency savings to be made in social care. Reducing staffing may well not result in efficiency enhancement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This needs a bigger review than just this - social services in West Lothian need a revamp to support those really in need, not just those who can shout the loudest or have the most influence.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	From personal experience I am unconvinced that WLC will provide the level of support for any young people that move into Foster Care. A clear detailed strategy for this is required before it would be agreed by LLBCC. Subject to that, we would be willing to engage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I hope that the Council is fully confident of the proposal to simply increase foster carers, who are already known to be in short supply?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing Social Workers is as concerning as reducing children's contact time with teachers (and presumably reducing teacher numbers in the process) ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing in Social Work is unthinkable. the service is stretched to breaking point already and less staff, even with streamlining is ridiculous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social policy provide a vital role in on going support to families and this should be considered before any reductions are made	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is great but staffing levels in this area are already stretched with massive long term absences of staff, what is the reason for this needs to be addressed first before cutting more staff. I dont have the answers but lack of staff is whats causing the troubles in the first place, they either need more resilience training or more staff not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Every last penny should be geared towards children, they do not choose to be born they should be looked after and nurtured to become the next generation of working people. Any way that this can happen must be explored	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I can't understand how additional foster care can be developed and yet staffing reduced?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No negative implications described here at all, why are you asking the public if you should make this saving, why are you not just making the savings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am not sure how you could reduce staffing in this area when there is such a demand for it. Agree there needs to be better partnership working and streamlining of processes and would positively welcome a strengthening of options for care experienced children and young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, I can't keep saying how much these services need extra funding as it is. Children's services are in greater demand than ever before, to reduce and streamline it now is madness.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, the reduced staffing quote - I don't know how you can provide a quality level of services for children if you are cutting staff - that just doesn't compute!; Please done reduce staff - please find another way of cutting costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's services are already stretched as it is. To reduce staff isn't the answer, wait lists are long, leaving children who need support not getting what they need. Children's cases being dropped by agencies because they simply cant accommodate them isn't good enough. The children of West Lothian are being let down by agencies that should be seeing them but aren't as their own service is stretched.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	must be a more efficient service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	You've outlined how you're supposedly making the system better, whilst saying you'll make cuts of £1.2 million. Services like this are crying out for more funding, not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	People need to have direct and timely access to Social Policy's services which is currently not always the case. Reducing staff may impact this further and put more onus back onto senior management within schools and this may not be the best outcome for the children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree that LAC need additional support and a greater facility available to them. This should not involve cutting staff numbers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How will the increased number of foster carers be achieved? How much support will be available to foster carers? Children and families services already appear to be understaffed so i would be concern about reductions in staffing levels. There is a risk that work is continually about dealing with crisis and that there are no opportunities for preventative interventions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The social care system is on its knees. Streamlining will affect those who are most vulnerable .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staffing for the most vulnerable children is not acceptable. These are the children that have been failed in the past and if it means diverting funds from cutting grass so be it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	In essence more job cuts for a poorer VITAL service. Terrible idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is terrible news, we are in for a rough time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Can you guarantee the provision of suitable foster carers?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Agree with the proposals to improve foster care but I'm not sure how this can be achieved with fewer social care staff. Should also look to provide more support to other family members e.g. grandparents who look after children that would otherwise require foster care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff concerns me for the staff output.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Do not put the most vulnerable kids at risk; ; Cost of this happening?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Why is reducing staff always a main part of savings?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Is there not a call for more people to work in this area? Why reduce the offering of people in the posts?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is an area where I am shocked to see plans to reduce staffing!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Extension of foster care seems sensible but you might have difficulty recruiting for that. Worries me that you want to reduce staffing as children with issues might be missed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I cannot agree with any reduction in social services for children. ; ; The increase in foster placements within the local area & support to the social work team in place must be a priority rather than an area for further cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't like the sound of this, and I'm not sure how you can guarantee increasing the pool of foster care if there are fewer staff to support them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Oh my god now you are just repeating yourself	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing may be cause for concern, if a number of services are running on low staff numbers at present, reducing even further could cause significant issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, sounds like you're doing more but it costs less....🤔	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	People are the core of any caring service. Reducing staff will lead to a reduction in the overall care provided.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I feel that this service has already been squeezed beyond the limits of it working effectively.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No - this service supports some of the most vulnerable in society. Efficiencies & savings should be reinvested in the service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Developing and investing in foster care provision within West Lothian seems a positive step, however it is vital that foster families have all the support they need to care for often deeply traumatised children and young people. I am concerned that a reduction in staffing may reduce the support network required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staffing for these services does not sound like a good idea. These facilities are already underfunded and over stretched!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's services are already stretched and don't do their job properly. To reduce this further will result in serious negligence.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	More adults are required to support children with trauma. Less would be detrimental to children and less nurture would be provided.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The more vulnerable children need their funding to be protected	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff working with vulnerable children will not support their health and well-being. This will also negatively impact their attainment. ; Children's services are at breaking point already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Concerns that any reduced staffing within social policy will directly impact negatively on most at risk children. Services are already stretched. ; Foster care options do need to be increased and strengthened however can money be saved here at the same time as improving this ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No staff cuts- this is very concerning and should not be considered an area for services to be cut. ; ; More investment in fostering? Isn't this voluntary, where is the saving here? ; ; The focus should be the needs of the child, not what's the cheapest solution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social work are at breaking point with the unmanageable case loads they are expected to oversee. Mental health problems post lockdown have increased dramatically. CAMHS have a waiting list of over two years. Social policy cannot effectively work by cutting back further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again not sure of the context to achieve proposed saving	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Checks should be done to ensure foster families are looking after their wards properly and being actively interested in their actual school work and life outcomes - and not just being incentivised by generous financial gain.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can reduce staff support children's needs this only gives others more workload which thgn allows for things to fall through the cracks snd be missed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again another area which cannot afford cuts to this level	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Our children most at risk deserve the most support. This is not a service that should be reduced. It should be increased!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These are some of the most vulnerable in society - ethical decisions about how to support them can not be made purely on a financial basis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Isn't it already a struggle to get quality foster carers for these vulnerable children how would that be increased without spend considerable spend. As far as I am aware social policy are struggling to cope to support the children and families that need help preventing harm to vulnerable children. The reduced staffing to this already stretch service is worrying.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is already at an extremely poor level of service. Children are falling through the net due to lack of interaction and engagement from other agencies. Schools are expected to follow protocols, however are being left in the dark or ignored as it is. This will only get worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The care and wellbeing needs of many children are not being met to reduced funding over a number of years. Are we really Getting It Right for Every Child???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The children at most risk and who desperately need help should not be considered an area for money saving. I would request that you work with foster/cared for children charities to try to work out if the service can become more efficient without an impact on children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The streamlining of such care facilities in this current climate would have an irreversible impact on many young people's lives. Those who might be missed as most vulnerable will be affected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It will maintain its' focus, but with less staff to implement that focus?! That's not going to work. Once again, children will suffer, especially those that need support the most.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Safeguarding children should be top priority and needs all the funding necessary to chiefs that goal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff with the same workload would be detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staff is not the right option.; I would suspect that staff working in Social policy are already finding workloads difficult to manage. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing in any area of child support is a mistake.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Increased staffing would make more sense when looked at in the round as this approach will only increase social problems and whilst perhaps making savings in this area will only lead to more expenditure in other areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Having been involved with a friend who undertook fostering in West Lothian and was left high and dry without support I suggest that maybe you need to sort the basics before coming out with ambitious proposals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Increasing fostering for children is great however I think it's unfair to stipulate that a parent can't work if they foster to help with income	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't see where by offering this you will save money, sounds to me like more funding is needed not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This seems like a dangerous area to be making cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is the last area we should be saving money from. Services are so tight and stretched as it is that children are vulnerable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Need to give more focus on disable people only .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's services are already at a low and the waiting list for children who require assistance is many months long. They cannot afford to be left to wait longer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	My only worry would be by increasing the amount of children in a home they may not get the proper attention they need I think training might have to be giving to certain foster carers to be able to handle certain situations properly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Oppose... the system in its current form is under strain.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children regardless of status and home care require significant support. Not just children who have needs. We need more support in our schools not less. For all children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I do not think reducing staff levels is in any way going to support the number of children and families struggling in this political and environmental climate. ; We definitely need more money in this sector not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Would this be at the detriment of those deemed less at-risk? How is taking £1.2m AWAY from fostering going to better is or encourage quality foster parents?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I'm sorry. Is this suggesting reducing social workers? We need more social workers, not less. If these proposals go ahead, more children will find themselves at risk. Again, shocked this is deemed a reasonable suggestion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I've never yet heard of an over-staffed social work team. So, while yes, you may focus on the most vulnerable, those children that could be positively impacted by access to services are now more likely to be missed. Their situations are therefore more likely to escalate over time resulting in them requiring more services at a later date. I can't see how this can GIRFEC or SHANARRI policy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Will be amazed if you can reduce staff and keep the service to the children, already seems pretty stretched in my experience	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I continue to have concerns about how reductions in staffing will affect these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children are already waiting too long for support from external agencies. Reduced staffing will only increase workload and slow support for those at risk. Some will be overlooked.; With two suicides from young people in our local area I hope members reviewing this are able to sleep well in their beds.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The information given about this policy is a little counterintuitive, it sounds like there is a plan to increase the fostering support available whilst reducing staffing levels. A review of the social services for children sounds reasonable but to expect better provision with reduced costs sounds unlikely.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I cannot see how reducing staff in this area will achieve further efficiency for some of our most vulnerable children and young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This service is already failing drastically. Further cuts would be horrendous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Waiting lists are already long, this will surely make the situation worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As with previous sections this talks of investment but also savings. It is very difficult to understand how savings could be realised without negative impact at least in the short term.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I understand the need for budget cuts, but staff reductions will have a catastrophic impact. In today's busy world where everyone is operating at 100 miles an hour, our children are getting left behind with very few adults who actually have time to stop, sit and listen and give them the time they need - especially those most at risk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Keep local authority control not private sector profit driven service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Theses services should be protected at all costs. Reductions can mean mistakes and children falling between the cracks.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduce staffing proposals not acceptable. Again, use of reserves should be used in this vital area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No job cuts!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Stop making staff cuts. That's your solution to everything. Cut staff makes unemployment numbers rise. Makes more people go on benefits. Impacts mental health of those losing their jobs. Affects how many people can be helped as not enough people to help them. The system is stretched as it is without cutting staff numbers. Cutting staff is not a solution. It adds to the problem ! Get more people into work. Force people back into work who are physically able rather than paying them a fortune to sit on their backside getting things handed to them ! That's where you save money and also help the overloaded system. Too many people sit not working when they physically can because they don't have to because the council (ie all those who do work) pay for them to have a better life than them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	1G Support Review but oppose setting a savings target. The children concerned have the most needs and usually have lower levels of attainment than the general population so any savings should be reinvested in their wellbeing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree that there needs to be more foster carers and more support for them, especially as I am a short breaks foster carer myself. Again, it isn't clear what that would look like in practice. I believe that all children should be supported to thrive, not just those 'most at risk' - what about those who are somewhat at risk? We have a duty of care to all young people.; I struggle to see how spending less money on services would be beneficial to foster carers, particularly those (like myself) who are part of the disabilities team.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Are these measures meaning redundancies for staff?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, this sounds like it would have a negative impact on young people and staff wellbeing. Focusing on the most at risk is good but there are increasing numbers at risk and they are not getting the support they need. ; Strengthening the range of fostering options sounds good.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing in an area which deals with our most vulnerable seems like a recipe for disaster!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These children are already at a disadvantage, so to remove experts in their field is an absolute disgrace. Yes, there should be more fostering options but as an addition, NOT instead of!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Streamline services? This should be happening in order to get the best outcomes for our vulnerable children and all children. ; To further reduce staffing of any kind from this side of things, will lead to more burn out of staff who are committed to making a difference. ; There isn't enough staff to keep up with demand at present, meaning less valuable time to make a difference. Leading to overworked staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How can reduced staffing support more at risk young people?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Think the system has failed too many kids and to reduce it would be more kids at risk	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Darlington or Rochdale, this is the outcome to expect should WLC choose to target the most vulnerable for cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	However you dress this up it doesn't sound good. I am angry for the people whose jobs will go and I am angry for the children that won't get the support they need. Rather than blaming the Scottish Government, that gets it grant from Westminster, Cosla should be organising a general strike to protest how these services, that are already stripped to the bone, are being slashed further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It will be difficult to replicate the exceptionally high quality service that these specialist placements in other areas offer locally and is looking to provide care on the cheap for our most traumatised and vulnerable children with the most significant needs. These children deserve a better service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It's important that the services being cut don't become a job for schools - they have enough to deal with and are already picking up many social work activities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The most traumatised and distressed children and young people are not having their needs met as it is without cutting these services even more. The GIRFEC approach cannot be rolled out on a shoestring it needs resourced correctly to improve these individuals experiences	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Supportive of strengthening fostering arrangements. Not convinced that redesigning services and cutting £1.2M is good for children requiring these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The foster carers get a humongous amount for children... then there's the emergency payments.... Bloody hell, are you kidding!!! Again employees!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Whilst I agree with a stronger focus on care experienced children I disagree with further reducing children's services. The wait times for referrals to some of these services are already too long.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I worry that aligning teams and streamlining services could lead to less resources dedicated to helping those in need because their attention is shared elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These services are already stretched way beyond their need! They certainly don't need a reduction in staff. More than ever, you require to meet the needs of all children requiring support and the teams should reflect this!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social services are on they're knees as it is, constantly trying to recruit new staff, I fail to see how reducing staffing will lead to a more streamlined service. This is a very dangerous precedent as i have seen first hand the detrimental effect this can have. Where are all the foster families appearing from ? There are even adverts on social media trying to recruit	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Mental health crisis. More funding needs to go into this, rather than being taken away. Families are in crisis across the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	services for children should be expanded, not cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	A review that strengthens the range of fostering options and support in West Lothian can only be a good thing. However, a £1.2 million pound cut in services for children is alarming and needs to be challenged	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Will the reduction of staff not put those in need of support at greater risk?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How does WLC propose to invest in increasing the current group of foster families but reducing the amount of budget being allocated to it? This doesn't make sense.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Personally, I think consideration needs to be given to this. There are too many children who need support and this is an essential service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Anything that helps protect children is important and worth doing as I said in the last answer we NEED all the teacher/pupil time we can get so that the people who spend time with children can pick up on these things.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Any attempt to reduce savings at this service through staffing would again have an impact on child poverty and disadvantaged children. I agree that streamlining of service would and could be beneficial if done correctly but unsure how a reduction in an already stretched service would make it better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It would be good to have some meat on the bones to explain how you plan to achieve this - these are just words with no clear sense of what you will do. Foster carers are like gold dust, and they require the right supports to stay in the role. Does social work have enough resource to accommodate your plans? What might suffer elsewhere? Children need to have consistency as I'm sure you already know. Reducing the risk of a child being routinely moved across placements can only be a good thing. It's also really important for siblings to be placed together - that's no doubt a challenge - it would be good to know what you plan to do in that space. Have you factored in additional requirements that may flow out of the work being undertaken by The Promise, flowing from the independent care review?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	In schools we regularly experience issues with the current staffing levels in Social Policy children's services and their ability to get back in contact with us should we identify child protection issue. Further reducing the number of staff would only exacerbate the issues faced by schools and therefore directly impact on safeguarding children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This makes no sense. How will they be streamlined? How are the savings realised and over what time period? How does it ensure the legal requirements are met when the implication from the description is they are not presently working even with the £1.2m funding in place?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Fostering system needs work, as too many instances of red tape for the right family to help.; Councils are not focused on true problem areas, leaving those children that really need help behind	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It's hard enough to access help for children this would only make things more difficult	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing the number of people in this area is not going to achieve better outcomes for disadvantaged children. The services are massively stretched already. This area needs investment. The restructure may be needed but not reduction of funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	If streamlining services is an efficient thing and the savings released have no overall impact on the outcomes for children in care then this seems right however reduced staffing models mean less staff to manage what is an increasing problem in West Lothian. Money should be invested in West Lothian to allow children to remain in West Lothian so this is good as is increasing the number of foster carers to support children with disabilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How will WLC ensure that vulnerable kids are not put at risk by this new model ?; contact time with parents & kids must be maintained at the same levels	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reducing staffing will not help. It will increase staff turnover and sickness. ; Using council places instead of having children placed far from home will help with this. Invest in staff and training for carers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No, my child needs help and cannot get it.; Why bring in more children?; Wasting time resources and money on bringing extra for everyone to deal with. Is ludicrous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This just sounds horrendous and not a saving that will benefit the young people involved	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Hard to see how a reduction in staff for this vital service would be beneficial.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not supportive of any changes to child services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Child services are the most ineffective system in Scotland this ranges from mental health to clothing grants, it is needing more money put in	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Beware of reducing support for foster parents/families! - not just the ones in crisis but the ones that find it hard going [probably most of them] with the kids as well as with the frustrations of the system and the legalities.; Failure to give adequate effective support is to build up greater expenditure down the line.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Cuts shouldn't be made here. The most at risk children are regularly being placed through a number of workers (no consistency in care) with a large number being placed in care settings miles away from their home area as local centres are closed or short staffed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The only way you are going to get a lot of Foster carers is if people have a spare room in their house. Bedroom tax made most people move so they didn't have a spare room!; Also, you do better to fight on all children and parents behalf against the governments disgusting, perverted, child grooming disguised as sex Ed. (At the time of typing this I believe WLC has not taken the gov up on this)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Reduced staffing in child protection will just end up with more kids experiencing trauma and knock on effects in education, health and justice. This is frightening.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	So your cost cutting exercise in this area intends to put more pressure on foster families who will already be working extremely hard. ; It would be up to the individual family as to whether they can take on more children.; I don't think this is a good area to be cutting costs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Care for children should be a priority so if "efficiency" means cutting Council staff so there are less checks being done then this is unacceptable. If there is any possibility that a child is at risk in a foster home there should be no delay waiting for "statutory requirements" to intervene.; Children should be able to stay in their local area to maintain friendships and continuity at school etc.; Proper training needs to be given for all foster carers not just those caring for the most traumatised children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I can't imagine how helping most unhappy children can cost less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, how can cutting funding in this area improve the service provided? ; Independent Review in this area should be performed, published, and put to the public to comment on prior to implementing change!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sad that in2022 we are reducing support. Agree we should look to have placements inside West Lothian as going outside is very expensive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Deserving children with specialities must be provided more than they are having now. No reduction is supported	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Early intervention is key ; Stop the stigma of fostered children ; ACES deal with this , therapy. Play intervention. Let them be kids! They don't always want to discuss their feelings! Give them happy memories make school their safe place! Give them a mentor(their one positive person) too many kids are failed and let down and passes from pillar to post! Make sure they have a person for a long period of time! Their comfort blanket! All kids need to be kinder and accepting of others! You need to look more into bullying, respect, looking out for one another! Stop all the media rubbish of accepting binary helicopters or he she they etc! They are choices! Kids don't choose to have aces! They are more important and need the more help'! Kids have nothing to do! No clubs, parks, any activities to do after school; What about the kids that can't afford the cinema or swimming with friends! It should be in partnership with leisure companies etc for swimming passes! Am I thou visit to the cinema. Passes for ice skating roller blading etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The social policy children's services are already under great pressure how will they cope and what will be the impact if staffing is reduced it is a huge concern if services are reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Is it not the case that currently some foster carers are saying they are seriously considering giving up fostering due to underfunding which enables them to feed the children given the ever increasing cost to live. Cutting funding to the service and having an expectation of developing the service to better enhance the support seem at great odds with cutting funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's services are already poor in West Lothian, I fear reduced staffing would only make it worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I do not think any cuts should be made to social work, which is inadequate as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I find it hard to believe you can support more foster families appropriately with the already overstretched social work departments. ; Why are we looking at fostering when the emphasis is supposed to be on reeducating parents and enabling families to remain together	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is theoretically a good idea but not realistic. The number of available foster carers are limited and therefore i do not believe this is a realistic proposal. ; Instead more support should be out in place to maintain children within their immediate and wider family where possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This is much easier said than done and reducing staffing levels in schools is ridiculous when they are already at breaking point. They need higher staffing levels, not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These services must not be reduced or streamlined.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds too good to be true that reduced staff could provide a better service. Reduced staff with high case loads get burnt out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This does not explain what is being cut to deliver savings. There is obviously a proposal for reduced staffing but only increases in care arrangements are being noted. Are services currently delivered by employees to be delivered by non employees in a future state. How would that work and what insight is there that these people will be available. ; What additional cuts are being envisaged re parties not assessed as being most at risk and what groups of people would fall below the line based upon risk assessed criteria.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The proposal includes a review of all Social Policy children's services to achieve further efficiency by redesigning and aligning teams more closely to deliver more streamlined teams and reduced staffing; ; All of the above says to us constituents is more cost cutting measure after tax increases this does not justify your tax increases !!!! One year you increase taxes to cover rising cost and allow you to fund increases in education services the below section taken from West Lothian council website regarding education ; ; A 6% funding increase in Education Services reflects increases in pupil numbers. West Lothian has experienced record breaking exam results over recent years and the increase aims to build upon that success. Over £183million is set to be invested in Education Services next year, the largest of all the council service areas.; ; So how can you now justify these cuts when you gained additional funds by increasing council tax to fund the initial increases has that money now disappeared or been reallocated elsewhere if so please explain where ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social Policy is a huge service area and I do not know enough about the day-to-day operations of the individual services within it. There isn't enough done to foster collaborative working across service areas and perhaps if staff across the council had a greater awareness of other service priorities and desired outcomes then there would be more collaboration.; ; I feel this is partly due to a point I made earlier where the managers that should be making those connections don't insight into ther own services, let alone others.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Increased foster care but saving money? Not clearly explained how this would work in practice. Is there a ready pool of foster carers? What about kinship carers? Huge cost implications here for training of foster/kinship carers, can't see how you will save money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is concerning that the most vulnerable children may have less support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with increasing the number of foster families. However just being reactive to problems and not proactive will lead to more problems in the long term. I don't feel reducing staff and increasing the workload on the staff that are left is a good policy to adopt. You need to support and train the staff you have.; I agree with teams working more closely.; Obviously money is very stretched so the council should do more to work with external charities / groups so people still have support which will hopefully help families deal with issues earlier.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Vulnerable children are at risk here. I struggle to understand from this statement how there could be an improvement and saving at the same time...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The above is essential to ensure the children most at risk are provided for and if what you are implementing in the streamlining does not impact this then the saving is essential	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with proposals in line with the Promise to keep children local and to further support foster carers and the incredible work they do. However that is not going to reduce the pressures on social work resources (ie you are not going to reduce the number of children requiring social work intervention). So if you reduce staff numbers, without reducing the case load of workers, all you will do is rely on workers taking on additional work, pressure and stress. This is unacceptable, as it will only impact upon the most vulnerable children in society. Social workers require the time and space to know children, their families and their needs. Social work intervention in family lives is crucial to the safety of children and also to ensure that decisions which could have a lifetime impact on families are carefully assessed and made with appropriate governance. I cannot see how this can be achieved with less staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Our most vulnerable children need compassionate skilled, trained and supported fostering services to ensure that they can reach their full; Potential in a safe and supportive environment. It is not clear how this saving will be delivered for real comment and feedback you would need to state what streamlining will mean and how a cut to the service will strengthen it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Sounds as if stringent economies should be made but I am worried that this will diminish standards. If these cuts are now vital, why haven't they been investigated before?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Understaffed and over- burdened already. Trying to access support is not an easy task. Most often if a child is accepted for support it can be weeks and weeks before they are seen. Cutting this budget would only make it worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I do not agree to any cutting service to children especially not to schools or to disability services. Children and families are struggling more than enough as it is, and the cost-of-living crisis is just going to make it worse. Only charge those who can afford it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	must keep all options open sometimes moving kids away from the area is the best option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I would agree that moving out of the area is bad sometimes it might be better to be away	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I should think possibility to move children out with the area as this is sometimes the best option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	there's not enough staff or enough space for kids. Supporting staff and parking	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Enough services for kids with additional needs and mental health supports need to be put in place quicker as well as diagnosis. There is very little mental health support for high school kids but there's plenty for adults but not teenage children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Already not enough staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There's not enough staff already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	not enough stuff to cut need more staff additional needs support. IAP set up	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	there is not enough staff as is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Who will look after the Foster carers?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	All client groups are entitled to receive support to meet assessed eligible needs.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not enough knowledge/experience to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	What is the question?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't have enough experience of this to provide comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Further explanation on alignment needed to be fully informed and give an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This proposal is simply not clear enough to comment meaningfully. No baseline data is provided nor the extent to which services are commissioned outside of West Lothian (!) and the impact of this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't understand enough about this area to comment constructively	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Difficult to understand how reducing services will increase help to children, more need more detail to understand how this could work.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't and can't have children so i don't feel it's fair for me to comment on this question.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment, not sure how you can improve these services as you say with a 1.2 million reduction	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	no involvement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No view	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment - again more detail required.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I cannot comment on this as I am not affect by this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't feel I have enough knowledge on this area to offer an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Lack of detail but don't understand from the text how that equate to a saving, where is the saving with in this approach. If it is to be reviewed that review should detail the cause and effect and whether this saving will or won't damage provision. Chicken and egg.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I mean do you actually care what anyone thinks because the wording is not clear or easy to understand for this with no background in this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not something I am able to comment on as I don't know enough about it	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I have not had any involvement in this so would not feel able to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comments.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't know enough to comment on this but can't see how services will be improved by cutting the budget and children -yet again- are suffering in your budget.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This does sound like a good idea, but I don't know enough to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not clear on what is being proposed here.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I don't know anything about how good this service is at present, generally reducing funding doesn't improve services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The lack of specifics here makes it impossible to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There is not enough information about how you will make savings	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is essential to ensure vulnerable children have continuity and high levels of professionals supporting them	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Is there enough staff now?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I do not have relevant experience of this situation so I cannot comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	What are you proposing, how can anyone respond when they haven't been told how it will affect them.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Appears a sensible approach, but little knowledge so difficult to make an informed comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Extremely important	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Not clear what the efficiency savings are here?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Above my pay grade	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It's not clear from above where the savings will be found. Please consult with plain language instead of euphemisms.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is vitally important that social policy have sufficient staff to support the children most at risk.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Foster care can be a wonderful thing, however addressing family breakdown comes first IMHO.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How will West Lothian Council provide the same level of service as it currently does with fewer staff?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Services protected for children and young adults at risk	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Try making it easier to access help, and have social workers actually do the job that they are supposed to	4. The council is already doing this.	All client groups are entitled to receive support to meet assessed eligible needs.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Will the staff with their experience be redeployed elsewhere	4. The council is already doing this.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This system is currently broken. It needs to be aligned to CAHMS, early intervention and under 1 umbrella, where all are communicating to support the child and the family. Social work, school support, school placement and CAHMS are not consulting effectively	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Look at group community / group care in more depth. Moving those who have reached the threshold for leaving care into social housing (with support). (Thinking of tenant at XXXXXXXX (redacted) who has been in this property for a while, there are additional compliance responsibilities for this property compared to standard social housing, but unsure of tenant's age / circumstance, so might still be appropriate). With consideration to this case could a group home be better suited and cater for more, but would come at less cost? However, it is important not to let young people to get lost in the "system" and support should be provided where it can be. Also in these incidences, consider the status of such housing (ie. if appropriate to leave tenant in such housing, should it still fall under the same compliance considerations or revert to regular social housing policies / compliance).	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Parents need to be consulted	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Services working together more closely in an integrated way can only benefit children if done properly	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	focusing on most at risk is key	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children with 'needs' are the most vulnerable in society. We can not let these young people down, we are the adults, we have to take responsibility for providing them with the best resources we can.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	How about spending more money on children who are struggling with mental health, I've been fighting a losing battle to get help for my 6 year old for 3 years, its a disgrace	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The increase in foster carers is essential and they should be suitable trained in order for the child not to be failed by the system and cause further trauma.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This measure is predicated on us being able to recruit additional foster carers - how realistic is this an ambition?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Social workers need better supervision and reflective practice so they can support people more effectively.	4. The council is already doing this.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The council should fund the voluntary sector and respect their expertise. They deliver on their contacts, have higher quality and greater scrutiny. Staff are also happier through better support and being in a creative environment.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Some more support for kids who are struggling or have behaviour issues	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is very important to make sure that there is provision of services in this area which are well; Staffed and with resources to identify children or families who need help and to be able to provide safe haven for those most in need.	4. The council is already doing this.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Totally agree that children with a disability should go to carers who have a good understanding and who will be there and care for them as if their own, they need and deserve no less. I don't believe a child with complex needs should go to someone who doesn't have knowledge or even no experience as this would not be fair on the child.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	A firm initiative provided that foster carers continue to be carefully vetted.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It does not help taken kids out of family homes for something minor and leaving kids in a home that needs to be taken out for something more serious. Foster care is a good thing for some kids but not all	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	In my opinion the council has to invest in early intervention to try and reduce the reliance on services as children get older.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Any focus on caring for vulnerable children must be continued	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Some of the most traumatised young people are unable to live in foster care, whether that be specialised or not. Invest in Foster care and residential care to ensure children and young people are not placed out with their local authority area.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	These children need protected and supported	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children who need help should be given it and this should be a priority.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	You mention the service will still maintain its focus on supporting children most at risk by providing earlier intervention.. however you are reducing staff so what happens to the other children still in the system...surely they also deserve some sort of early intervention also.	4. The council is already doing this.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Totally agree that for almost all children they should be accommodated safely within local authority and more options for children with not oy a physical disability but those with communication and learning needs needs to be an investment as ultimately if we support and develop resilience mental wellbeing and independence in our children there will be a lessened impact/need for adult intervention.; The social service sector (in my opinion/experience) is already chronically underfunded.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Is awestvLothian keeping to The Promise!! This needs to be a priority for the council and any saving should not be at the expense of the most vulnerable members of society. Any children who is care experienced has suffered a trauma and should receive the best support that they need to heal from this trauma.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Wow, we need to be careful with the safety and well being of all young people	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I am aware that there is a need for continued support for some individuals and would like to think that this will continue and expand.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There needs to be enough help for people with disabled children and there needs to be enough staff overall.	4. The council is already doing this.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Early intervention and follow up being consistent with centralised information to allow any involvement to know all info and real time analysis of situations especially where there is real concern of harm so important. Children need to feel one to one connection and security in an unsecure situation for definite.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Streamlining teams while maintaining focus on supporting children most at risk is something that should be progressed, as long as it doesn't result in children not being supported and ending up further along in the process and ending up being most at risk due to lack of support earlier on. Early intervention should be a key focus to reduce pressures further down the stream and should be a focus of achieving savings. Not sure what the current foster care arrangements are and therefore cannot comment on whether agree or not.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Early intervention is key in this area and working on this model will help reduce the most vulnerable children and young people requiring support for foster care or engaging in criminal activity in the future. We need to get it right when the family needs support, and not wait until statutory measures are required, as we are not meeting the needs of the children, young people, families and communities by waiting until issues have escalated significantly.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	welfare of children should be a high priority	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This service should be supporting every child not just most at risk especially with children's mental health - more provision needs put in.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I agree with the need to develop intensive foster care to support the most traumatised children, investing in increasing the existing group of fostering families and also increasing the numbers of foster carers able to care for children with a disability. However, should there not also be some early intervention with parents to ensure they are able to make the right choices to be able to be good parents and thus reduce the number of children in care as far as possible. Look at the root causes would be far more cost effective.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It is important to have children close to their family and friends and school for continuity/familiarisation	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Letting kids stay in West Lothian near extending family etc is paramount	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I fully support a programme that supports children being cared for in their home community as long as the right supports are in place for the child.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Have the Council signed up for The Promise!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Children's safety and consistency of adults in their life should be at the centre of any decisions.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Excellent support and wellbeing of children must be the central focus throughout.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	child centered focus is a good thing for children and to have the supports they need to increase their chances in life and this being a happy one for them.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Important that those people most in need get help	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Continue to support all the children who require it.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The support for children who are most at risk is already failing a number of children so reducing the services and staff numbers for this would have a detrimental impact to their wellbeing.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Go with the lowest cost option.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Bring back group provision	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Targeting response and smart is essential.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	We need to be careful that some children don't fall through the cracks and become invisible.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	As mentioned previously, to follow the 8-4 model will provide opportunity to care for vulnerable children each day rather than maybe 2 full days of a week. ; Foster care support would be a much welcomed support for our children in need.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	What will this mean for those children who are unable to be placed in a foster home?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This I not appropriate. Do you really think “ The service will maintain its focus on supporting children most at risk” is being focussed on at present. No it isn't. My daughter was abused by her father behind my back and diagnosed with speech and language difficulties. When I lived in Falkirk they helped. Moved to West Lothian to get away from abuse and yous have not helped. Secondly my daughter also was referred for absenteeism and once she was diagnosed or informed she wasn't the school in Falkirk was going to refer her for aspergers. As I mentioned before we moved to get away from abuse everything cancelled or ignored and West Lothian schools did nothing, they did not follow what the Falkirk school planned and passed on to the new school. Same as social services nothing when I phoned up for support to handle my daughter since she is likely to have aspergers. Improve the staff at schools and social services to help and support when required instead of throwing people to the side as they can't be bothered dealing with it. What do you think will happen now if you reduce staff? It will be a impossible to get any support, worse than it is the now.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	A manager and 2 assistant managers who do very little all day. Certainly don't have the best interests of the children at heart. The Manager paid 2 young people £20 a day during the summer to paint the fences. I think the running total was £400. The fences didn't actually get painted (I think the young people painted half a slat a day) The staff watched the young people doing a drug deal outside Torcroft and all felt powerless and over-ruled by management. Manager stated well if he is out his face he won't be causing any hassle. Great use of council funds.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The money that is wasted at Torcroft and Whitrigg is astonishing. You just need to look at how dirty Torcroft House is to see the cleaner doesn't earn her money. In fact if you were to walk in during her hours you will see her sitting at the Kitchen Table. Her Partner is the cook at Torcroft and if you walk in at lunch time you will find them both tucking in to a hearty lunch - in their own words 'might as well eat here for free'. How many establishments provide a hot cooked lunch for cleaners. Pretty shocking when we have kids relying on food banks and staff are taking advantage.;	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The council do not care about children. They force my 6 year old girl and my 13 year old boy to share a 1 bedroom bungalow with me! Apparently this is acceptable although my son is AUTISTIC!! ; ;	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I trust that the parents of the children going into foster care will also go through an intense education programme so that they understand the impact on the child so that they don't continue to have any more children.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Foster care is a joke my kids got abused while in social work care so you need better social workers who can do there job	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response. Please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Managers and improvement actions are taken where necessary.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	It would be beneficial if all stakeholders had access to the same computer systems to allow for information sharing and speed of support provided.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The Home Secretary would be a great source of advice on this.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Kri***** (redacted)	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Kids should be held accountable for anti social behaviour , including pointless standing in the car park screaming for not reason, kids coming up to peoples houses to ask to watch tv , play or eat, is an issue. these childrean creates anti social behavior, which creates neighbour hood tension where parents and neighbours kick off , cause the parents arent doing anything, cause they cant be assed. DONT HAVE KIDS that is neglectful parenting. ; ; how about a services that recognises the damage and harm that kids can do to others , especially vulnerable person. i have seen kids think its funny and want to inflict harm / threaten sever harm as they feel that is the right response. these kids need taken away and looked after in trauma home. instead of forcing parents. gaurdians , carers to put them selves in harms way , there should be a trauma counselling that protects the gaurdians mental health as not all childrean have a trauma response but a general response of malice.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This should be the easiest one to do because from personal experience of your social work teams they are not interested in dealing with child neglect so they must be well overstaffed	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There is not enough support for pupils with ACE's in schools.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Can we consider how to promote fostering amongst our communities to help support the service? Can informed data consent be used more effectively across all service areas to enable earlier intervention and support to prevent issues escalating to statutory thresholds (I realise that this involves multiple services, not simply Social Policy) to be involved.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Green gyms for kids might be a help	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Support for single parents with financial things they need for child's learning and receiving information about school such as internet and devices for more financial people and classes to show older ones such as myself how to use this schedule as I am 48 with a 5 year old all this technology was not needed when my 2 older kids were at school so all new and very confusing	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	West Lothian is struggling for new homes yet allow big companies to build anywhere	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	I blame ***** (redacted)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	This needs clarification.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	There is insufficient detail about the current model and associated cost to comment on the impact that would be seen by a reduction of £1.2 million pounds. £1.2 million as a percentage saving of how much? Efficiency, redesigning, aligning, streamlined - all just non-descriptive language in respect of what would actually be changing - but then you say reduced staffing. So just cuts then? More detail required to allow meaningful consultation.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Again, vague, vacuous policy talk.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	No comment, as I don't understand the details	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Insufficient detail to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Too little detail to know how this would save money!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off-putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	Very difficult to comment without further detail as I do not have knowledge or experience of this.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1G Review of Services for Children	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user-friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Prioritisation is important, but how does this reconcile with the above point of third-party education provision?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Council is committed to ensure a strong governance framework is in place to make sure quality is at the heart of service delivery from external partners

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It is right to target services at the highest areas of priority but you need to be careful about people falling through the net with this approach. E.g. SIMD areas of deprivation get services thrown at them and areas not considered to be in need don't even think to look for anything	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Reviewing commissioning arrangements is good housekeeping so would agree with this should be initiated	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree that services should be aligned, too many services/organisations working in silo and not knowing what each area is doing, however, we need to make sure that this does not adversely affect the services being delivered	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As above - if there are new developments and approaches available, which enable the existing level of commissioned services to retain current priority - then OK, but again concerned if costs rules over service provision to at risk children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As per last comment if better can be achieved through review then it can be positive. For example ASN private taxi chaos annually.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again this area needs careful planning and consideration to ensure that children are not put at risk due to cuts for critical services or requirements to enable children to lead the best life that they can in very difficult circumstances	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I also think we need to be smarter around what we are paying for as a Council. Often partner organisations or tendered services are not providing what was in original agreement or over charging compared to the service they have provided. Especially within social care and support partnerships. The Council are often seen a easy money without significant scrutiny/monitoring of the expected service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sensible to review to ensure value for money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I support reviews but not cuts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	targeting highest area of priority seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Fine in theory, but I would not like to see increased use of private sector in education. This rarely has good outcomes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree with this approach	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Does this mean a reduction in funding for third sector partners?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good stuff👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree - the council should not be paying the third sector for activities that don't deliver against council priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As long as it's not an excuse to let quality slip....	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree. Fill 50 forms in when one should be suffice for all.services. the amount of time.wasted l'd abominal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with the proposed idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Adopt ethical commissioning and use of not for profit providers to reduce costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	review is needed..100% agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Review seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with streamlined and effective services being made available to those most in need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This should be brought inline with other corporate procurement activities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Acceptable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The service in this area is good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As long as the reduction of services has no impact on provision of childrens care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again all sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Getting looked after children in long term safe places would save money. Cutting red tape for potential adopters etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Review of commissioning arrangements seems appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree change is needed but not just for the highest priority areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This is a sensible move, but only if there is sufficient and appropriate provision made within West Lothian	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Worthy of ongoing review.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Targeted help would be a big help as long as it's done in a timely fashion	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Removing 3rd party arrangements, and organising us with other councils, will in the long run be more cost effective, but more importantly have a better result to the children we are trying to protect, rather than fill pockets of 3rd party companies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree, providing in house provision meets demand.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This is a good idea as long as the council have got the funds to carry it out	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Ongoing reviews of services is a must.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again i dont really understand what departments you are discussing here.; Of course when it comes to children they should be priority when it omes to spending. Things like free music lessons are not essential but food clothing safety etc a must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Absolutely. Service user feedback needs heard too. Any private companies/organisations receiving funds must be accountable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	all needs reviewed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As long as children are not put at risk as a result of any changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Third parties often lead to increased cost and less control by the council. Agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not really sure what commissioning services are but I probably agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Must not only target highest priority cases. Must target all children areas. They are our future.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	agree but want to be able to see the data once up and running	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Services should be provided by the council where possible, not the third sector	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds good in principal buy I worry vulnerable children will be missed and ignored	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	You lose control by using external services, keep it in house with your own trained staff. Cheaper in the long run as you will get better outcomes for the children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	bring all.in house and give more not less	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Review is probably required but not sure how you can quantify savings before review has taken place	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agreed. We should stop commissioning any children services that either duplicate council provision, or do not match with council priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, I don't always have the confidence that third party involvement is always the most cost effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	How much will the review process cost?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As long as services are not negatively impacted this seems fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Outsourcing costs are a good way to save money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Savings could be made including a wider variety of procurement partners	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	So long as focus is on highest priority for children then this makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Absolutely renegotiate current arrangements with 3rd parties to ensure we have the best deal for West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Less handovers would be efficient and better for the child which is the only priority.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If this cost saving can be achieved without introducing significant compromise to the service it would be the right thing to do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	targeting the most needed seems fair enough	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No issues with proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Yes please.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As long as a good service is provided	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If it works good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with these changes especially with reviewing the cost of some third party services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again seems good in theory	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Should be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I completely agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	i agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Services should be delivered based on customer need, lived experience feedback and current service user requirements. Incorporating modernised approaches is something that should be positive and third sector should be looking to be as competitive as a private business and not to rely on council funding. However, this would mean that the council is reliant on the third sector being able to modernise and be more flexible to customer needs, not just what they can deliver.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree, there seems to be quite a lot of commissioned services, particularly from the voluntary sector that offer poor value for money to the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I think its important for monies for services in deprived areas still to be provided. These areas have been hit hard since the pandemic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	A contract is only as good as his well it is managed by the council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Streamlining and improving interagency communication would benefit all involved	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good idea, I think.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I'm favour of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	yes good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree that this is a good cost saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree - should be reviewed as standard.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Got for it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This sounds like a positive approach	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This sounds like a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	In theory this makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This seems appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Well done	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Looks good - happy with that	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Seems reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds a fair saving proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	At present there is duplication in some areas of commissioning work and reviews that are already happening. The council is paying for specialist commissioning agencies to come in when we have service development officers, business officers and lead officers in areas that are undertaking the same work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Depends on what is being commissioned and the positive (or otherwise) impact provision makes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This is fine as long as its long term an remains consistent.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As long as vital services are covered	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Depends as the cheapest is not always the best - cut costs yes, but not quality of service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Depends whether people are going to be stigmatised because they live in a town that people class as affluent (e.g. Linlithgow) even though as individuals or as a family unit they are on or below the poverty line themselves, and therefore denied access to the services they would have been entitled to if they lived in another part of West Lothian that is considered more deprived. Stereotypes are not helpful and therefore each case should be reviewed individually regardless of location people live in.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree that review of commissioning arrangements is appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If by Commissioned Services you mean the administration then LLBCC wold be open two this process.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	All services should be central and not farmed out to businesses. We need a complete overhaul to ensure clarity and accountability.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with this suggestion to work to best utilise new developments and approaches.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I would suggest that any risk of service failure arising from the revised approach be thoroughly assessed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree that we should review commissioned services - those not providing value for money should cease	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Yes third party service agreements should be reviewed and re-evaluated to ensure fairness and quality.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The highest areas should be targeted as long as the work has been done behind the seen and it's evidenced that these are the highest areas in need	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Review and alignment; does seem fairly sound.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree, liaison with Procurement is key to ensuring services priorities are met.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The council needs to go further in reviewing commissioned services. If the council's funding is constrained and there are proposals to reduce funding to partners such as West Lothian Leisure, all voluntary organisation payments must be reviewed as a priority. The council can't keep honouring historic arrangements at the expense of other core provision because it is difficult to have conversations with voluntary organisations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This would be a reasonable if the support was available for all children who require it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	3rd parties shouldnt be used unless absolutely necessary. This is an inflated cost for services that the council should cover and do themselves	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If this means reduced 3rd party spend then appreciate how the saving maybe acheived they are generally over priced anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	should be done but not at the safety of children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	ok so long as you do not take away from services that are needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Should always be dealt with by service and not a third party.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	A review and how services are conducted is a must 4	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It seems there needs to be a restructure. When families ask for help they are not getting it except from school staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As above I think the money foster carers get should be reviewed and maybe people fostering for the wrong reasons!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	In house care services would be cheaper than private providers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Fully support this measure, important to get value for money from commissioned service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agreewould be much better keeping it in-house	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Third parties must deliver services to or exceed the standards required nationally.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	the children need to be given every opportunity to thrive in life use more of the education services and let them provide more support to children rather than outside help with other agencies these children will open up more to people that they see and that they trust.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good idea. Can this not be reduced further?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	All external services should be brought back in-house as they have been proven to be not value for money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Review all services and look at any duplication.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sema sensible and something that should be done on a recurring basis. Essentially I am assuming the saving comes from Third parties currently delivery work that the Council no longer needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It feels like you should already be doing this routinely!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This is good; As all agencies involved need to be on the same page and kept up; To date with current situations etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Review this as this money could be used better	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Mental health services should be at the front. Too many young people are being constantly let down by a patchy or non-existent service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Reasonable adjustment to make. Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	All needs to be streamlined and made easier to access support for children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If done effectively there should be a saving to be made but will depend on the amount of working hours and bureaucracy involved	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	All outsourcing of Child Services should be stopped and brought in-house. There should be none of the vast profits on providing care. It would mean there would be an accountability that outside companies do not have, Child services should be under the direct control of LAs so there is proper scrutiny; A recent media report that highlighted the horrific case of a special needs child being held by a private supplier in a cell should mean there is an urgent full review of who exactly are providing these services and what is the priority with these contracts - the child or, as is most likely, profits.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with review, savings only if then can be proven to be efficient without detriment to duty of care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Totally agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Needs careful monitoring	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	On the face of it this makes sense. Always good to review processes to ensure they remain relevant and if efficiencies are available, all the better	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I agree with this, we commission too many vital services to private organisations. These services need to be streamlined and a consistent approach used in order that council officers can be responsible for the care received by our children and young people. How can council officers govern and perform due diligence when the task is being delivered by a third party.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If this has no direct impact on the services provided it is an essential and worthwhile cost saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Yes, I agree with this, and with any work which can be done to ensure that third-party services are provided as cost-effectively and in line with Council and national priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, hard to work out where savings will be made. Focus on supporting the ability of all children to access education. Improve the efficiency of referrals to services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	More waiting lists	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Please do not remove vital services from families in crisis - it is a false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Already an area stretched to breaking point and another further reduction!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	"Commissioned services" must be better explained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Those who are not 'high priority' will become so during the wait for the services they need.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Is it relevant that the services are delivered by "third parties"? Why would a review of children's services at 1G not include these services too? Indeed 1G suggests "efficiency, redesigning, aligning, streamlined" - how can this be undertaken well if not all services are included in the redesign and are to be reviewed separately? ; It would also be helpful to know the ratio of the saving - £543,000 as a % of what value?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	3rd parties cost money... save the money use the People we already pay. Using 3rd party agencies means paying twice for the same service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	For Attention of SP HOS: I am a council employee and work in social care and believe money could be saved by giving employees a better rate of pay for working overtime hours rather than employing agency staff who get paid double what council employees get the council also have to pay there fuel expenses and provide there personal protective equipment which must cost the council a fortune	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Aligning, jargon for cutbacks in essential services of children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Insufficient information to justify savings of £533,000; Alignment of services with policy is surely a requirement of contracting the services in the first place?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No idea what a commissioned service is , be nice if you gave examples	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Most children's services should be delivered by council- not costly 3rd parties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again all i see is cuts, cuts and more cuts, savings usually mean a worse service not better	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Wants cost kept down and quality of services maintained	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	What children's services? The invisible ones? My child had been on a CAMHs waiting list for 18 months and WLC will do nothing to help him in the interim. Why are children your first target? They'll be able to vote in a few years and will remember you taking everything from them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Please see my comment above, money needs to be put into residential and respite services, not taken away or restricted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, not enough information. Which services? For example, waiting until a child or family are unable to function before offering a service is pointless. It's too late. They will never recover. You have to intervene before crisis. Again, impacting families of vulnerable children the most. Not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I always believe that their parties, outside contractor etc pick and number then treble it where the council are concerned. Even when it going through procurement. This might be costly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	See above, this would be a huge mistake as council services tend to be inflexible, low quality, low quality, bureaucratic and only focus on the people with highest needs. I was on e a social worker and saw this at the front line. Staff burnout is so high at the council it costs millions in sick pay, recruitment and vacancies. Working in the voluntary sector is so much more positive and the outcomes for people are much better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again these services are vital within West Lothian, reducing costs and funding to them would be destructive and Dana gong to do many vulnerable families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Another targetting of the most vulnerable, and least able to speak up for themselves, in our society. The council certainly has no shame whatsoever. Disgusting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	But the thord party will taking all that saving for their services so i think its not appropriate as well	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure how the estimated savings can be calculated _before_ the review takes place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I think the quality of services will be at risk of decreasing under this restructuring.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Children, not money, need to be the priority. Decisions should only be made if it is in the best interest of the child.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am against cuts to services for children, so many of these are already underperforming	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Already services are bouncing children back and forth and no one is willing to handle or accept responsibility for those children with complex and additional needs. The system needs joined up and streamlined so that children are not falling through the cracks or being passed around constantly with no actual support being put in place to support them and their families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Reducing funding to children's services will not save money long-term.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The above paragraph would have been better supported with an actual example. Vague, wishy-washy statements that lead people to believe that what is being suggested does not have far reaching and potentially serious ramifications for children's services. How can you ask for the point of view of people if you do not paint a true representative picture of what is being suggested.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Things already move slowly and children suffer because of it, how is realigning to fewer staff going to meet the needs of the children already needing assistance?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Has the Scottish government cut your budget so much there's no money left? Can you explain third parties? Seems quite worrying	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Opposed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds as though some children at the lower end of need will suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This leaves our young people who require additional input from external agencies in a vulnerable position.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again the young people are suffering.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It is important that services are available for those who are most at risk. Reducing spending should not affect the quality of services provided for vulnerable children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Reading between the lines, it seems that we are saying those with less priority will not receive services. Having been on the forefront of what it means when priorities are given to those most in need, it's difficult to see how the impact will be of benefit overall. I would envisage that staff on the front line will feel this pain rather than those making the decisions to remove services. Have we thought about how this will affect staff and our communities at all? Have we accommodated the effect of losing even more staff and not being able to attract any new ones?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It is impossible to meet the needs of our children. This 'multi agency' approach does not work when schools cannot get in touch with anyone/ endless waiting lists - taking money away from these services is a disaster waiting to happen and the wellbeing of our children should never be put on the line.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This sounds like children who are not classed as "high priority" will lose services which I would imagine will mean they don't have as much opportunity to develop and thrive. Although this will save money in the short term, I think more problems may arise later which will impact costs in the longer term e.g. healthcare, housing etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again not sure what you are meaning but if this is Youth clubs which is a children's service! then the changes happening right now with regard to stopping P1, P2, S2 plus in youth clubs in communities, then whoever thought this was GIRFEC obviously has forgot just what being a child is and the reason these services have always been in communities firstly to be part of your own community for a start and feel safe and included.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I don't think there should be a reduction in this case with the way society is now there's more care needed which can cost more money which is a must	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again children services need to be support more not reduced. So the lowest area of priority will receive even less. STOP REDUCING STAFF AND SERVICES	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If you bring in other parties it costs money, the nhs pays out a fortune to agencies for nurses , they pay out more so it cost the nhs more rather than recruiting, if you do that it may cost more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	a saving of this amount honestly seems like a budgeting exercise, as estimates to actuals can vary by more than this amount; - nevertheless, third party service providers must be undergoing enhanced due diligence, and this must be reviewed on a 6 monthly to annual basis, based on the inherent risk present.; - are any policies being dropped or replaced in response to new developments?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Going down a dangerous path this could see some children fall through the gabs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Is this reduction due to previous inefficiencies in the third party childrens activities, or in the council's management of them. This looks to me like a simple "squeeze" of sub-contracts during a re-tendering process, which rarely provides a better service to the customer, especially those who are not "the highest areas of priority". Who are these affected people and why is that ok?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This sounds as though many children will lose out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No cuts more funds	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure how this will be done - unless you plan to increase the workload on the current commissioned services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Further explanation on alignment needed to be fully informed and give an opinion . However, if you are thinking of scrapping school busses, this is a bad move. Public transport is not reliable enough. Some areas do not have a regular service. Some services are cancelled or their routes cut short without notice. And most importantly some children with additional support needs use the school bus as a means of autonomy and learning through self travel which would not happen in a lot of cases if this was not available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Any cutbacks to childrens services in a disgrace in this modern society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This is disingenuous. Nobody could argue with "review" and "align", but if only the highest priorities are to be targeted what are the second-highest ones that will be sacrificed. No description is given so again this is meaningless.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This could have a massive impact on early intervention, there are not enough children services at present.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Focus should have always been focused on priority areas but removing help from those in need will just create issues in the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Many third party providers will already be running very close to cost given increased overheads and regulatory requirements. Prompting third party providers to lower costs may force them to cut corners and face regulatory action. This sounds very dangerous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, it would be short sighted to reduce support to vulnerable children/families .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If this review leads to less staff on the front line to deal with any issues it should not be amended if anything more staff are on one contact should be hired	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If this means reducing service contract cost cutting at renewal of contracts, I am not in agreement as this would have knock on effect on the interaction between client and service provider.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Currently 3rd parties are used as minimally as possible and are discussed prior to arranging so I'm unsure how this would lead to a saving	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Waiting for children to become high priority instead of providing intervention support at earlier stages is surely letting them down.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No no way we don't trust this either we have the power not government or councils you work for us again use only put in limited amounts of words whilst hiding the real truth of the agenda behind it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I again, don't fully understand how this would save a lot of money - no real explanation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This sounds huge and I would be concerned that this could have a significant impact on the services and services it relates to - which have not been identified.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Children's services are already seriously underfunded and any attempt to cut this is a bad idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, the 'Public Private Partnership' fiasco proves that third parties are not in the best interest of the young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This needs explained more. Reviewing actually costs money it doesn't save it. and then at the end of the review, if you don't change anything what is the actual cost incurred with no saving.....?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	if you contract work out it will always cost more because we are rubbish at managing our contractors in whatever sector.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	All children deserve the same care and attention this sounds like those who are in the 'ok' bracket will be left to fend for themselves.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Do not support, resources for education and social care must be a priority for public spending	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	How does a "review" lead to cost cuts? Please provide more detail in how this is going to be done.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If you are conducting a reviewing how do you already know the outcome? ie that it will lead to cost reductions. If ot is known now that these can be achieved why pay for a review and not just make the necessary changes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Investment in our children for a better future. Too many children already suffering due to the government chooses at present.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Odd that you are not doing this already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I'm unsure about this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	aye right then.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	clothing grants must be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	lose again	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No changes are need.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	not aplicable to me	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not supportive	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am not sure what commissioned services are involved however those that support the mental health of young people should be retained, as other services (i.e., CAHMS) are overwhelmed and there is an epidemic of poor mental health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Similarly, these services should not have to suffer more. All levels should be a priority and not just highest areas of priority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	What does that even mean? How is support allocated - how are the highest areas of priority decided? Is it to do with the families that cause the most noise or damage? It's certainly not the quiet ones....they get left with no support until you read about suicides on social media.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Historical and future reduction in commissioning arrangements with third parties will result in a collapse to the opportunities that are on offer to children as part of a wider community education programme and will result in further deprivation to those who are part of the working families throughout WL that cannot afford private instruction for coordinated and supervised activities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	i do not agree with this at all they need everything they get .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Opposed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, concerns around these proposals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Against	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	it is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It is important to maintain this level service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	it is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It is an important service to keep	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	this is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	it's important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It is important to maintain this level of service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Scrap it altogether	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	What will be the cost of this review	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not where savings should be made. Children services need more funding. These are vulnerable children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Invest in Children or there will be huge problems down the years	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This is an area I feel is under resourced and cuts shouldn't be considered as we need more investment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	who is going to supervise these 3rd parties to ensure that they are going to provide the services and care that they are required to do.; basically what you are saying her, and in other areas, is that more and more council services are going to be privatised with minimum council staff being employed to try and ensure compliance	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Whilst a review of all commissioning services is probably essential I do not see how you can guesstimate the estimated saving unless the review has already taken place (which again would make this 'tick box consultation')	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The children service support is vital for supporting children and families	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No take responsibility and provide the services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	It's essential that these services are still able to provide the help and support these children and families need. Is cutting staff the only way to save money, services are under pressure already, children should never fall through the net.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Bringing in 3rd party agencies again, why are all the children's services being attacked so heavily. This is the area where more investment should be happening investing in our children are the future	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No negative implications described here at all, why are you asking the public if you should make this saving, why are you not just making the savings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Ridiculous!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Very concerned that 3rd party companies are providing these services for profit. The review should look at phasing these out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This seem unlikely to be achievable . Third parties will be facing increased costs. If they are not non profit making they will seek to make profits too	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Right to review but shouldn't be pre-judging cost savings	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	These third party services could be preventing a situation becoming a higher priority case. Tread carefully! And speak to staff at the coal face, asking for positive suggestions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As previously stated not a fan of third parties, keep your own staff employed. Probably pay more than you would with WLC employees.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	this should of never been sold off to thrid party services ,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	So basically cutting services again. You must think we are idiots	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Concerns that a review of 3rd party services may lead to reductions. Again similar to above regarding overstretched support for children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Children paying for the cuts again.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Investment required in provisions such a social work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No. No third parties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Children's services are already stretched, as I've previously mentioned Children's mental health is at an all time low. How can you now target these areas further?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	There may be scope for making use of third party services to support children there are some excellent services there .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Same answer as above.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This proposal is unclear and perhaps deliberately so.; ; What does it even mean?; ; Please be explicit. ; ; Removing funding from child's services can never be a good idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am unclear about the impact of these savings as the description doesn't allow me to have a fuller picture or understanding. Once again, I feel this consultation survey is not accessible by those with English as a second language, those with disabilities, those living in digital poverty, those who feel they have no voice and would stress the importance of having an open discussion with the public.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I don't know what this actually means, commissioned survives... One again though, what will the direct impact be on the young people involved?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Why, from the start, council had to ask commissioned service to third party?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Cost reductions but commissioned services still need to deliver on their outcomes. Not sure his this will work as independent sector already propping up commissioned services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Highest areas of priority = focus on kids in lower SIMD ignore everyone else. By doing this you exclude the mass population. This is not inclusion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Children's services are already at a low and the waiting list for children who require assistance is many months long. They cannot afford to be left to wait longer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I do not think anything to do with children should be cut because that is when you are more likely to miss things and children will end up suffering.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	High tariff children still need significant support, this will cause more mental health and behaviour issues in learners.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again I think that cutting costs need to be carefully managed to prevent the reduction of services.; This is not the time to reduce any family services. When the need is greater than ever.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Please elaborate what are commissioned services. A few examples would lead to better comments on the issue.; Although I suspect, that's not the aim of this survey. The questions are vague, sneaky and confusing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This description is so vague. You could be discussing most anything. ; ; Don't cut childrens' funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This is the same as above! Essentially those children who aren't deemed a high priority will fall through the cracks. This is absolutely not the right solution for our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, what you're saying is that to save money, you accept that children will no longer get the services they require. I cannot support this as a way of saving money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Would it not be better if all the childrens services are in house, reducing conflicts of responsibility	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Streamline managers and create more on the ground supports.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Worry re those being left out/missed out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	"highest areas of priority" means that those with the greatest need will receive support, but an increasing number of people are in a middle ground and would benefit from additional support but, under this policy, would not be entitled to it. This would lead to future issues, potentially, and is an example of short-term thinking.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Do not pay outside profit driven companies for work the council should be providing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not enough detail on impact to make assessment. Our 30+ years experience is that reduced funding in this area always leads to more pressure on families and staff and reduced service provision and quality.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The cost of the review no doubt is substantial and must ensure sound and proven policies and procedures are in place and adhered too.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No cuts that affect children and families!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Who defines high priority? Putting an estimated saving amount on this before the consultation just shows how the figure is defined and is the driver before actually understanding the service needs. ; This question is as vague as it can be designed to ensure any answers are meaningless enough to be ignored. ; The bottom line is that the cuts and savings will be made at every level where real needs exist, while the waste and overheads are upper levels of management and with councillors is left to run rampant.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	1H Support Review but oppose setting a savings target. The children concerned have the most needs and usually have lower levels of attainment than the general population so any savings should be reinvested in their wellbeing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As above on both accounts, we shouldn't allow this to happen although it's hard to know what is happening given you continue to use terms like 'review...services current priorities' rather than telling us what you are actually cutting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, looking to replace high quality specialised services with a cheaper model to the detriment of our most vulnerable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	More funding needed, not taken away.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	should be investigated	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Another cut in children's services!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I have recently been made aware of an experience by a member of my family where their child with special needs was left unattended by a carer in third parties premises which resulted in the child been put in danger. It is necessary to involve third parties especially in day care they must be properly licensed and monitored	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Councils are relying more and more on third party providers for both health and social care, if a review of the commissioning makes savings so be it as long as crucial funding is not cut and services go with it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Leave the children alone and take from the higher ups at the council, they can afford it, minor sacrifice	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not convinced the children are the main concern here it appears to be cost cutting only	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	'Commissioned services targeted at the highest areas of priority' - what about the other areas, will those just be forgotten? There are certain aspects of childrens services which are very poor, cost reduction in any area of children's services need to be managed very carefully by suitably experienced pepole, not managers looking to reduce costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Many of the good residential homes are already closing, we should not be putting them under more pressure. ; Care of children needs to take priority over care of the elderly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	More provision for the elderly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Keep provision for the elderly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Keep provision for elderly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	More provision for the elderly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	More provision for the elderly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Better provision for the elderly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	More provision for elderly residents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	maybe improve services for older people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	don't want things to change for the elderly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Keep day series for older people - no cuts please	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	ensure current service level for older adults in maintained	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Maintain services for older people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am in agreement with prioritising revives for those most in need but that usually means that some lose out. Making a saving and commissioning the cheapest service or a reduced service does not usually lead to improved services. Would not support this cut if it leads to reduced services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Nightmare at present. There is a lack of essential care available especially for those being cared for at home. The system is at breaking point	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	When I needed help with my mother who lived with us for the last few years of her life, the care she was given was excellent. I hope there would be no falling in standards due to lack of funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Based on the 2022/23 revenue budget: ; ; are you able to reduce the £53.8 million on services for older people? This seems like a very large percentage. It would be interesting to see how the £53.8 millions is broken down in order to see what parts of the budget can be reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Social Care - especially older people needs revamping. The Service is second rate and poor. When you get transferred to older people's care- Bathgate the help declines due to some inept Social Workers. The department inefficient.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Sounds as if stringent economies should be made but I am worried that this will diminish standards. If these cuts are now vital, why haven't they been investigated before? ; ; There already appears to be huge concerns over social care and its inadequate cover- please try to maintain where possible for the more vulnerable in our community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, looking for savings in a recognised area of chronic underfunding seems counter-productive for all involved. Is there no opportunity to partner with the social goals of large corporates based in Scotland to help fund and improve these areas?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Don't want budget cuts to affect my day service. No changes please.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Social care is essential. Apply charges to those who can afford it. Do not cut services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I don't agree with any of these lists getting cut especially social care as there are lots of people screaming for help and they already struggle to get the help and it's sickening.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Leave the elderly alone. They have enough to cope with and not enough money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	not if it means cuts and the diagnosis and assessment of children and ongoing support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Any cuts to the social care sector will be counterproductive we are already seeing bed blocking in hospitals as there are not enough services available to support vulnerable people when they leave hospital - elderly, disabled	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	this means cuts in assessment and diagnosis of children then no	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	More money list to be put into the adult with learning disabilities and more resources and better places for respite. The one in uphall is not in a great place with a pub in front and shops and cars. It needs to be in a better surrounding area	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	services are not in house not commissioning; the quality of the third-party services is usually lacking compared to those offered by the council for example ELC compared to private nursery.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	if possible do in house	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No details, therefore no comments apart from putting another cog in place so that things can go wrong too easily... Contractors cost less for a reason - profits before people and their staff. Wrong move.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	will these commissioned services be means tested?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what I am meant to comment on as I would need to know what the changes were.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No idea what this is referring to or who these 3rd parties are or whether or not they're important.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what we are asked to comment on	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	What are commissioned services????	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	not really sure what this is and what it means so cant really comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I have no idea what this means? Well done for putting important decisions in a language that's hard to decipher.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	not sure what changes you are suggesting?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Very difficult to comment when there is no indication of which commissioned services are likely to be lost	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I don't fully understand the proposal here. Please refer to my earlier answers.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No enough information, cannot comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I have no idea what these services are so cant comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I don't know who WLC has commissioning arrangements with so can't comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I'm not sure what services could be impacted so need more info before i can comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No baseline data provided to comment meaningfully on the extent and scope of the savings proposed and financial effect.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	How are these cost reductions being achieved? Not clear from the statement above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Where and in what departments?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Have no idea what this means. I think you intended that to be the case.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure on this one, would need to know more.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As previous answer	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I mean do you actually care what anyone thinks because the wording is not clear or easy to understand for this with no background in this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Without explaining to us what these services are, how can we comment? It's unfair to say you have consulted on this without more information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Don't know what Commissioned services are	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again not able to offer comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I dont have personal information of these services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not clear on what these changes impact	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I don't know what most of the terminology means in many of these areas in this questionnaire e.g. what are commissioned services?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	While I realize that the Council needs to make savings how can I respond when you haven't given enough details.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No comments.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what they are asking	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Proposal is poorly described so not possible to; comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	These proposals also lack a sense of clarity but reading between the lines it could be taken that there is currently services being taken from third parties which would not be priority. Is this proposal to cut back items delivered from excess funding. Could examples of such arrangement be provided. ; Separately could it be confirmed that there is no change in priorities	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I do not have any experience of this sector to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	How?; Where?; What anticipated outcomes?; ; This is too non-specific for comment!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Without knowing what the commissioned service are it is impossible to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Cost of completing this task	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	How much will the review initially cost?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	None of this is written in a way that the lay public could reasonably understand and comment on.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	We need more detailed info about what this means	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I can't comment on this as the explanation of proposed cuts is far too vague	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Its unclear what this item is	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not clear, a review alone will save £533k, how? It's not clearly stated where the cost saving would come from so I cannot comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	i dont think you will get many people filling this out as it is too complicated and you havent used simple words.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	More information is needed on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This Depends on the services that are being cut	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This question is too wordy and not clear	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Have no idea what this actually means... waffle, waffle, waffle.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	What does this mean? Your question could be much clearer to allow us to comment on what you are actually proposing. It appears that your use of jargon is designed to not allow a proper consultation.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Another vague proposal. What are "Commissioned Services"???	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Do not know enough about Commissioned services to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Very difficult to comment without further detail as I do not have knowledge or experience of this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	What are these 'commissioned' services? Please give examples	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	There is not enough information to really comment here but our most vulnerable children and young people should always be a high priority.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	So lowest priority ignored!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Wahat services?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Such a sugar coated statements are unable to understand. Don't know what you really mean	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Generally satisfied with services but fear for the future of elderly people	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Hard to say	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I don't fully understand	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Commissioned services? Explanation needed before I can comment fully on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This is too vague and the current services are already under pressure so how is it possible to say money...	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I suspect that modernising Social Care will mean scrapping it altogether	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	We should always be looking for best value from the services supporting children's services and a focus on the positive outcomes they achieve	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This could provide effective delivery from within the service, not always best to use external providers, need best value	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Commissioned services may already run at tight operating margins and cost reductions must not result in a reduction in quality or scope or service.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	We need to ensure that third parties are properly managed and providing the services they are paid for.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	All contracts should be reviewed to get value fir money	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Targeted joined up working has to be well managed and with no 'territorial' infighting.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Commissioned Services must be used to the full if financed by WLC and a robust system of checks and balances, including timely delivery and value for money must be rigorously enforced.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Maybe third parties have to divertsive and learn to work together, perhaps savings could be made there?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Children will need to be provided with something if they are struggling.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Reviews should always be carried out regulating when dealing with outside agencies that are being paid for their services.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The priority needs to be developing all young people and providing not only time and activities for children but safe spaces and community support. Children need to be supported and encouraged with strong fundamentals in education so I would be disappointed if these are not focused on.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, I am not fully sure what this means. I would hope that any third parties commissioned to offering services to Children would always be aligned with Service priorities but agree their approach should embrace any new developments and approaches implemented.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	In my opinion the council has to invest in early intervention to try and reduce the reliance on services as children get older.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The council should ensure that standards from third party suppliers are high & that their employment terms are also decent.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again GIRFEC	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Maybe consider a more joint up approach instead of a sourcing out approach.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Strong partnership working which is linked up and communication is key. Perhaps peer support and knowledge exchange with different roles and just casual conversations to help each other understand their role will help people to see the big picture.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If making cut backs to out of authority provision, there needs to be honesty that this will in turn have direct impact on other service areas - eg education. Instead of cutting here, invest in in-house resources which will lead to longer-term savings.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	there needs to be better management of the contracts and commissioning and moves away from PSP schemes ; third sector providers should be providing services that are required and can demonstrate outcomes; if services can deliver the same service in house they should be brought back in where there is more control over the management and improvement of the approach; contracts should be reviewed and monitored regularly	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Children's services should always be targeted to the areas which require priority	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Third party agencies would have to be monitored and as accountable as current children services	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If we cut cost here we need to make sure there is still enough measures in place to keep the children safe.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Go with the lowest cost option.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Clarity is required on what is covered by the term 'commissioned services'. This could include services that save lives.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what this means exactly. Somebody needs a course in plain English and how to give us details which we can comment on rather than generalisations.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	What is the current annual spend on commissioned services and what percentage of this spend does the £533k represent. What services are currently provided by 3rd party services and what procurement review has been undertaken to ask these suppliers for discounted pricing - i.e. have procurement written to all suppliers requesting a cost reduction in respect of services provided?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	If you are withdrawing third party services then it would be wise to train your own staff to deliver the necessary services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	You need to explain what you mean by 'Children' services'	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Once again need to ensure these cuts are not at the expense of staff wages or conditions	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. This question focusses on the commissioning of services from external partners and is therefore not focussed on internal staff terms and conditions.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	1 shot of Javelin, anti tank or surface to air, costs £308 thousand. With your stupid savings you can not afford even to shoot twice, in a same time sending billion worth of guns packaged to Ukraine. In UK 800 000 children are not going to afford hot meal on Christmas, but you are supporting war thousands miles away. Sad.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure if this is the correct area for this comment but I think the monies spent on transport / taxis for children needs to be addressed. Thousands of pounds are spent each week to transport children to school in taxis. Parents are given disability cars and passes for the care of their children. Could a majority of parents not bring their own child to school in their mobility cars.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	A full review of the young peoples units is long overdue. Its disgusting the money that gets wasted. The cook makes the young people the same menu every week and they don't eat it because they dont like it. I see full trays of untouched food getting thrown out every day. The cook doesnt even care about this.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I think a requirement for all social care staff (children) should be a prerequisite that they actually be parents..	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	How is priority assessed? Normally this means cut the outlying areas and centralise in Livingston or the East of the county	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The current practise where all school transport providers must go to an annual CCT bid process is horrible. There are routinely people left without knowing who will pick up their child on the first day of term or no-one turning up. This process is complex and lengthy, bidders don't know which runs they will win so bid for multiples. Once they win they might then hand some back if they get too many, meaning a new provider has to be found often in the week before school returns when according to the contracts and the expectations of the families they are meant to have a meet and greet with the taxi driver and escort. This often doesn't happen. Can it not be changed so that the contracts are for 2 or 3 years so that there's more continuity for children who often struggle with change and that must be a way of saving significant time and money with the Transport department?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	See the answer above	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The council need to sort my housing before I'll even consider offering my opinion. The council ignores me constantly and is costing me 2 houses to pay for. My next step is to take my housing situation to all media outlets.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As per my previous comment.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	As the last answer	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	West Lothian council should look after their own.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Cleaning staff in school are already under pressure and are not given enough time to clean to high standards.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Children play areas and playground	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	mir*****(redacted)	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Get rid of community councils, they are a waste of resources and council time.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Wealthy parent should contribute more . It should not be free for all .	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	On a different note, it is crucial that GPs start honouring their contract and looking after their patients. It would appear that it depends on where you live whether or not you are "seen" by such a person. It is a broken service. Well done the nurses for stepping up to the mark, with a lower salary.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Community Based Support at the moment the council provides an excellent day service for adults with severe compound and complex special needs. Most service users need to use a wheelchair, sometimes specifically designed for them and this facility has easy access and on found level so that all parts of the building are accessible to all users. The staff at Elburn are excellent too well qualified and highly motivated making sure that the service users are able to access and experience many activities where it would otherwise be difficult for the many professionals- physiotherapists, speech and language, nursing staff are on sire at particular times, and this capitalises the number of service users they can work with whether in group or individual sessions. my son is one of the service users and enjoys going each day, look s on it as his work (because he has his regular physiotherapy sessions) and because of the quality of the care and the variety of activity and experiences it adds to his quality of life. This will be the same for the other service users and makes it all the more important that the council continues to provide this essential service.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Better management of GP healthcare as I can't get an appointment	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I blame ***** (redacted)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This doesn't even warrant an answer!!cut the wages and pensions of teachers!!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	This needs clarified.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	again, this question makes no sense to me.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what 'commissioning services' are at present	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not enough detail to comment on.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not enough information to judge the impact. A very specific estimated saving, but very little detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No idea what you are proposing here.... Gobbledygook	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again I have no idea what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	There is not enough information here to allow an appropriate response.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what this means	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again not in plain English to make any comment here. ; I cantvcomment not through choice but the above not explained.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am not sure what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am unsure of the impact from such measures. Not enough detail has been provided.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what this relates to	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The words above contain no detail at all	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	No comment. Don't fully understand this.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I am unsure what this would entail as there is very little detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again, without knowing how much the reviews will cost it is hard to comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not enough detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again - this is a vague outline, and hard to provide comment on without fuller details.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure I understand what the services mentioned actually are so can't comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again this explanation is poor and I do not understand the meaning of the proposals. I would suggest the Council seeks customer input for future surveys to ensure they are written in plain English and easily understood.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what this would mean in practise.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Cannot comment as not clear on what negative impact this will have on children	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Not sure what this means	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	Again no experience in this area so don't feel able to comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity; ; There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1H Review of Commissioned Services	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Makes sense but the wider community is losing out because schools aren't open for people to access facilities (like swimming pools or gyms) outwith school hours which could help promote health and wellbeing in the wider community - not everyone can afford to go to private clubs. Even Xcite premises aren't open that much for public access outwith normal business hours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	OK as long as the children have the same hours of education at the same level.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as no-one is punished, this could be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This seems like the only sensible suggestion among all; Of those which will directly affect at the young people of West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Rationalising of estates management across the Council area may provide efficiencies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	PROPERTY SERVICES
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If this leads to better/more effective delivery with clear remits and standards, this is a positive way forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management may be more effectively and efficiently provided by an external facilities management specialist provider.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money. However having had previous experience in this area, there should be a drive to maximise resources by ensuring working arrangements are fit for purpose and are not arranged around archaic models that attract premium payments for the sake of it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yes, definitely agree with this, too much down time and not enough cluster facilities staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As mentioned previously huge savings can easily be made by reducing the number of school janitors by at least 2 per cluster. Ours is never in school and when he is, he's too busy taking a shower, fixing his bike or playing football with the kids. When he's on holiday he is not missed one single bit. School staff now go most of his jobs and he sits around gossiping!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	close the swimming pools in schools as these cant be cost effective or run the facilities as a proper business not with excite but with school staff who want the schools to succeed make money rather than keeping excite afloat	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Why are schools open until 10pm? That is ridiculous. It was much more sensible before.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree there is plenty of community centres around West Lothian to be used and money can be saved with having schools open 11 hours a day	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Is this a core central system? which makes sense, however what are you doing with the staff in these roles? Redundancy is a very expensive way.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This would be a good idea. School lets are an issue. We have three let's where FMA have been on site and paid to open the school and the group who booked it have not turned up meaning FMA are being paid overtime for nothing. Perhaps a reduction of hours such as 7am to 6pm would help.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Positive steps, but H&S must not be compromised	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	These arrangements must bring a better quality of service to the children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If the Facilities team are not on site then the buildings should be closed. If the building is open then there should always be a member of the Facilities Management team member there for safety reasons.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities needs over hauled	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FMA janitorial services within schools absolutely needs revised. The cluster I work in has 4 janitors looking after 4 schools. Two of these janitors do absolutely nothing except open up and lock up the schools. When asked to do a job or assist with a job, both say "naw that's no my job!" These 2 sit in the FMA office for at least 3 hours per day chatting to each other, complaining about their workload, gossiping and watching the news in BBC Scotland website! One of them arrives for the start of shift then goes for a shower (on Council time) this can take anything from 30 mins to 1 hour daily! When he sees a delivery van arriving at the reception, he disappears and has been found hiding in the jitter cupboard just so he doesn't have to help with the delivery! He can often be found (in Council time) outside playing football at break times with the kids meanwhile someone else is left to deal with Maintenance workers to arrive to carry out work During the nice weather before the summer break, these 2 janitors were spotted down at a local park soaking up the sun for 2 hours whilst on shift! When he's on holiday he is absolutely not missed by anyone. If we need a janitor we call one of the others who are always more than happy to come and help out. Basically I'm saying WLC could easy reduce the number of FMA staff by half as the other half are stealing a wage!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This must have been already reduced as my child is in senior school and loathes having to use the school toilets as they are not clean and rarely have toilet rolls in them...basic human standards.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More use by community of schools would raise revenue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Services should be under constant review to ensure value for money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I think some schools are open to 10pm, can this be reduced to at least 9pm but still provide the needed services (or similar appropriate time)? Same goes for other properties that are open later, but perhaps don't need to be?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Need to keep cost down	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Surely you should be trying to get the facilities used more, making money that way?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as this doesn't impact after school clubs etc then great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Seems like a reduction in staffing, but could work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Outsourcing FM. Little surprise here. Cutting staff who support this shows how readily the council are at saving senior management roles. Sometimes this can work, other times you are reliant on a third party to deal with this, and standards can be poor.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I agree with this if it is in alignment with the opening hours but not to cut services already needed in settings. If the ELC hours were reduced to finish inline with the school this would free up facilities management. ELC children requiring care from 4 onwards should seek to apply to providers that are open at this time. I.E. if we are in partnership with private providers we should fund places for children here who will be outwith the 8-4 time frame.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	GREAT 👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Seems sensible, as long as it doesn't reduce the opportunities for extra-curricular activities for children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Would agree that this is required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Making the school day shorter would bring savings here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	That's amazing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	You could very easily cut the staffing of school janitors by half! In the cluster I work in we have 4 janitors although 2 of them are never around. When our janitor is in the building he is either: Having a shower (yes you read that correctly). Eating a lunch provided from the school kitchen that he doesn't pay for. Playing football on the pitch with the children. At the gate chatting to parents. In the carpark talking to his mates - for hours at a time (who pop in to speak to him). Moaning about how much work he has to do. Phoning the Union to complain about nothing! Telling staff "that's not my job" when asked to do something. Chatting to workers who come into do a repair. His idea of fixing a hole in the wall is to stick duct tape over it! In the container on his exercise bike (again yes you read that correctly) Hiding in the art cupboard as he has seen a delivery van coming into the carpark and if he can't be found we can't ask him to put the delivery away! Talking to his janitor pal and planning how they are going to get out of doing any work and how they're going to tell the FMA office by sending numerous emails! In short - he is a complete waste of space and his wages would be better spent elsewhere as other than opening and closing the school, he does absolutely nothing!! I know from speaking to colleagues from other schools that their janitor isn't much better!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I agree that school buildings do not need to be open the long hours they are when nobody is using the spaces.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	A more logical approach seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	So long as this doesn't mean a reduction in the level of service and therefore cost reduction, I would support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This sounds excellent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	So the schools will closed for longer to save money on heating costs etc which makes sense in the current climate but the staff will be expected to do the same amount of work in a shorter time - so teachers can stand in a line waiting at a photocopy as none of them can access the building until 8.15? Im not really clear on how this would work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Acceptable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Instead of facilities managers sitting playing games or listening to music, perhaps they could actually do some work - like they used to do. I don't understand why they are paid to sit around and do nothing. Not all facilities managers do this but the vast majority I know do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as cleanliness in schools is not compromised...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Some work very long hours with additional hours for lets. Not sure always required?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management are already stretched between schools I believe. However, if some details given, this would help to understand your proposed savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Having a bank of 'capable facilities management staff' would certainly help to alleviate some of the pressure that is put on certain janitors who appear to do most of the work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Fantastic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as facilities are safe, clean and well maintained then that's great. Anything that puts more money in the hands of third parties is not a great plan. Find ways to deliver these services yourselves.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Definitely sounds good, again I have experienced this with swimming and FM are really not happy people at most school venues!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in, but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reviewed to seek better scheduling of activities and revised cover arrangements and opening hours in schools seems appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree as we do seem to have lost our community education hubs - providing after school activities/opportunities for community projects. I think that the council needs to do a better job of involving people from our local communities to deliver opportunities which could be vocationally based learning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as the activities continue to be provided for pupil's ways of increasing efficiency is a welcome approach. I don't believe that the school day needs to be changed significantly. School children are performing well at school at the moment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Worthy of ongoing review.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Welcome better scheduling of activities if kids/parents know beforehand allows time to prepare the child (get used to the idea - if needed) and get equipment/kit needed (if anything). If you mean during school day!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I agree. But the community centre self-access arrangements are not suitable for everyone. And if that is what you are planning for schools I do not think it will work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Consideration to this has to go hand in hand with the activity within Customer & Communities - who is looking at the overall building estate where there are community centres, community halls etc. Think this proposal should link so that where there is a closure that the local schools could assist and it could still offer up alternative for the ward area	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management do not need to be employed in school during the summer unless there is a clear role for them, my experience is that they spend most of the time idle and could be on sessional contracts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Easily reduce the number of FMA's per cluster. We have 4 covering 4 schools. 2 of these staff members can never be found whilst on shift. A FMA helpdesk with cover being sent when needed would save lots of money. Our FMA only opens and closes the school, refusing to do any other tasks requested stating 'it's not my job' - complete and utter waste of money!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I agree with looking at restructuring and looking for more efficient use of resources however I would not be in agreement with staff reductions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School letting should be reviewed and rationalised to reduce FM and heating/lighting costs. Unnecessary to have multiple buildings open in one location e.g. where there is already a partnership centre which is not fully occupied.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Open hours of school should be looked at in line with the early years.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As I mentioned previously, close on Fridays. It's tough but if it reduces costs and can save a few teacher's salaries then I'm all for changing it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I support in principal as long as the school operating times would not be affected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Some services need reviewed on how efficient they are and costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree so long as we are not talking about loss of community or after-school club access to schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	need to look at fma management.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This is a fair proposal, aligning them with the school day when they are most needed would save lots of wasted hours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agreed,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Does make sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sounds easier and like a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Fine with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	GOOD IDEA	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It would be a shame if some activities had to stop due to this, but keeping the times buildings are open to a minimum seems like a prudent idea in this climate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Provided there is no reduction in the service being currently provided.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Why has this not already been implemented	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	school hours are reducing, then facilities management should be trimmed to reflect this change	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again as long as children's safety and wellbeing are not put at risk as a result of any changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	There is genuine scope to review facilities management in schools. Current arrangements and practices are outdated and are not always designed and delivered with the best needs of the young people in mind.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Need to maintain good levels of cleanliness.; Possibly reduce extra curricular activities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FM could definitely be better utilised within the school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agreed. Why do we need cleaners in a school on a Friday when pupils are only in a half day. Can the minimal cleaning this must generate not be held over to a Monday?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as it doesn't affect school times and overall better for the children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I do agree with this as home working is now much easier so staff do not need to spend as long in the school building.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I feel this could be an effective saving if carried out properly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again providing internal and external customers can see the progress of any queries and update them I do not oppose this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I'm sure there are opportunities to rationalise costs in this area, I am aware of some very high charges but ineffective solutions. Any opportunities to review the arrangements in place for new schools in particular may be worth consideration.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Definitely worthwhile, too often FMA seem to be lacking tasks and in my experience are regularly resting in staff rooms.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Why not implemented already	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again moving with the times and providing on going support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sounds like a reasonable approach. That said, a question to Central Govt should be addressed to ask them for how much longer can Local Govt be delivering with less resources but increased demand?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This one is badly needed, far to many inefficiencies in this one even at management level where staff have been told not to work so hard (anecdotal)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	There is too much slack in the system and facilities operators take advantage of Council contracts with poor supervision reduce further costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Why are our children's schools being let out to groups after the school day? This cannot be cost effective, in fact, it probably loses money for the council due to the admin time involved, cleaning requirements afterwards and facilities management attendance. In fact, are these premises not being opened for groups of people who are then left in our children's schools with no supervision? Surely that alone rings alarm bells as schools have photos us on walls with our children and their achievements in foyers etc. Schools should be a safe and secure place for our children, not somewhere that anyone who fills out a form can rent out and use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reporting of issues should be simple and dealt with quickly with honest timescales given. Is there a reporting system and can works be scheduled with minimal disruption to learning?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Go with the most efficient options	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I support this measure.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as Health & Safety issues are addressed and no risks are introduced by scaling back.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I agree with the proposed changes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree - should be reviewed as standard.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yes save	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Excellent ideas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sounds good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Oki	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	100% agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I Agree with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree with this strategy although not if this leads to termination of any current activities .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Re previous comments on reviewing systems and procedures. This is an area where large savings could be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	as long as the time the students can be at school is the same i see no problem.; We can not adjust the opening hours to save the council money but the families are worse off having to arrange child care. The cost shift from council to parents. this is not right.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	A review is not negative if it helps	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, if the status quo is reviewed, challenged and improved...great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Will these opening hours affect after school clubs and time teachers can be in school to set up resources and activities? Some teaching staff arrive as early as 7am and/or leave as late as 6pm to work around their own child care and meet the increasing demands of the job!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Acceptable providing it does not mean a reduction in activities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	To support the responsible person the FMA should still be linked to individual schools and provide support when required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	All facilities management roles should be reviewed. Needed in morning and at close of day but just sitting about in middle of day.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This should be taking place now as a matter of course	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No negative implications described here at all, why are you asking the public if you should make this saving, why are you not just making the savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised facilities management in schools	Heating / electric /FMA overtime. Will more than cancel out any let fee. School kitchen not big enough for number of children having lunch.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree that school activities should be better scheduled	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This needs to be in place	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yes. Offering activities will support children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I dont have much knowledge of this but as long as no compromise for childs learning then happy with cost savings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I take it this means more schools open for local community use during non-school hours in order to maximise existing facilities? If so, then bring it on! The under-utilization of school buildings has puzzled me for decades and surely in many cases could save money on other premises if people could start to think outside the box!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. It is proposed to rationalise the provision of council facilities and community centres across West Lothian and support community access through council or partner facilities within each community.
Modernising our council	1I Revised facilities management in schools	parents struggle to work and cover the childcare, as far as we dont lose hours at school by doing this, its not a bad idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. No change to school hours is proposed.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yes, that is good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Community schools do not actually let communities use the facilities as they have to pay from their limited budgets for staff to open and close. facilities are still set out for school use so in every practical sense they are unuseable. So a review is welcome so that facilities can be better used.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sensible to review but needs to be an appropriate level in all schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Whilst I agree with this I also believe that there should be an urgent review undertaken of simple things like lights being left on in schools 24/7. I regularly drive past DCHS & see lights on all floors blazing at 10/11pm at night when even the basic community offering would have closed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I think facilities management could be looked at heard a few rumours about the new Whitburn centre guys not clocking in and claiming hours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This could definitely be streamlined but would need to be done in a way that doesn't reduce the services provided.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This makes sense, again though need to ensure don't go too thin as impact if sickness etc and then have to pay overtime etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Definitely. Lots of money is spent on managing and cleaning schools that is not needed. I see far too many cleaning staff at some schools and they are often just standing around waiting for their shift to end. They could do the same job with significantly less staff. ; ; We should follow Japan and have pupils clean their own schools. So many great life lessons and life skills to be learned through this. What a great name West Lothian would get for piloting this too!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Absolutely. I know many times the facilities management services are not busy. In our local community centre, they sit in empty buildings playing games on computers or ordering their online shopping. Some even boast about it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure the direct impact this may have. If there can be a more efficient use of existing personnel as long as does not impact on roles of other school staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	should be able to be done by centralising these services in the areas they serve	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Current FM within schools do nothing apart from take an issue and pass it on to someone else.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as full service is still kept.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School should open and close for the school day Monday - Friday. Only opening for scheduled school events with advance notice. Activities should be based in partnership centres. Or sports centres	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Makes sense to reorganise this as there is little point of a janitor being in a building for one booking.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reviewing service is fine, if the recipients of the service are kept in mind, not just the cost cutting exercise. These establishments can not exist without adequate FM's	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This seems a sensible idea, streamlined cooperative facilities management services across schools would be more advantageous and increase purchase power.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This could be streamlined	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agreed . Need to have some activities after school hour in all schools so working parent could be benefited .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Fully agree with this measure, can deliver savings without adversely impacting on outcomes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	this would seem to make sense but I hope it wont lead to less access to school facilities for the community. If underused, it could just be that people just dont know what is available	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yes this sounds reasonable as long as buildings are clean and safe for children and staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	the janitor role and hours need to be addressed as their is too much time wasted on them sitting around waiting on a job to be done and they should be in a better rota than the one the now. We dont know who is on at times and who is covering who and when they are on holiday unless they tell us themselves	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good idea. Can this not be reduced further?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as schools can function properly and safely	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	100 percent agree with this. Why are janitors working until 21 or 22 when there is no need to. Also many routine janitorial jobs are absorbed by school staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	should be investigated	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as child or young adult will not be put in danger	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Looks like. Good approach assuming it doesn't impact education	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	These a sensible approach to only open when needed but need to make sure ad hoc openings are easy to secure if needs be.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It makes sense to optimise services to achieve savings without significant inconvenience	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as there is no reduction in available activities then it seems a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I agree but not the the detriment of school maintenance and schools being unable to access these services when needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	These services are already pushed to the limit trying to help clean and maintain decaying estate which is poorly maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities Management Services are stretched to the max. they have been cut to the extent where some fms's are looking after 4 schools etc. no longer is the "janitor" someone who will help or assist the school staff as they are rightly saying no to anything out with their contracts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am aware that at the moment if an FM or keyholder is required to be contacted for an emergency situation at the school then this is already very challenging with very few staff being actually formally on call or available to attend to properties out of hours - it seems that the organisation relies on people doing this on a "goodwill" basis which is not currently effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School janitors hours have been streamlined on many occasions and they are still expected to maintain the buildings etc with reduce staffing numbers. Not sure they should be cut further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cover is already a huge issue within schools as well as the ability to engage with supply teachers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cleaning standards in schools are already appalling and a health hazard in themselves.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Another waste of money, cutting corners that won't help schools or communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This means sharing school janitors which is not as good for the school as having an duty janitor in the building at all times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again reducing the hours that schools are open can be a derogatory decision to after school clubs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This must not effect community use schools where these are vital to the community. Particularly with the opening of the new winchburgh academy. the population of winchburgh needs to be given the opportunity to prove that opening nights and weekends can be made commercially viable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reads like you will be reducing hours and cover for community use. Again impacting children, elderly and disabled. Not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools are already at the minimum level of support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Any changes to facilities management and the associated levels of service should mean that repairs, routine maintenance, etc., are carried out in such a way to help schools deliver education. No school should be having to wait for essential repairs and maintenance. This can be particularly important in the winter months. Scrimping on maintenance can be a false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, this cover is an area where changes should not be made and cuts should not be allowed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Another essential service being hit by potential cost cutting! Our schools need to be safe places for our children and by stretching the already stretched FM team you are risking the health and safety of not only staff but children (again)!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It is almost impossible at the present time to have all FM issues resolved in a day, with many having three schools so this is going to be bedlam!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The facilities management team already do a lot more than their contracted obligations. You would need to be very careful not to cut too much otherwise our school buildings and grounds will suffer, incurring further costs to repair or replace.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School could not operate properly without the FMA's they are a very important part of the daily running of the school , during COVID FMA's has to still open up the school when no one was in the building as they were classed as Key workers why would we want to make a saving on them when they are such an important part of the school process	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I think our facility manager is already stretched thinly as it is, this would have a huge impact on schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Please see my previous comments. Any cuts to budgets where staff are already going above and beyond will mean the system will break - it certainly won't improve. PLEASE come and visit a school and see what happens here, not ready 'strategies' and paper policies!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As our school has grown in number, the staff have not. We are now over 1000 students, in a building that is mostly falling down and our staff do their best to keep everything spinning. It is a slap in the face to say you want to reduce this even further. My suggestion is that members of the council proposing this change spend a day or two as staff in a busy high school and see how replacable these people are.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School facility management is necessary for children out of school activities as well as breakfast clubs and staff access - these should not be reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I doubt this would help, the workload would just end up falling onto school staff. Who are already overwhelmed with workload. The addition of this and social work tasks would lead to either absences due to poor mental health or leaving the profession.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What are facilities management? Does this mean school support staff, for example? Does this mean janitors will be put on reduced hours? If so, absolutely not in agreement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Will extra curricular activities remain in place : this service offer a wider range of activities and can be low cost for children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This is already shockingly low! Can't believe you want to cut it further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cannot see how this is going to be able to be reduced any more than it currently is without becoming a huge safety issues for our schools, pupils and parents. Staff already go above and beyond to ensure safety.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools facilities services are on their knees. Janitors juggling numerous schools and cleaners with impossible work loads. I believe this proposal will lead to serious health and safety issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Keeping schools clean and safe is vital for our children and young people. It would be helpful to know what the pupils in schools would see as a result of this suggestion. Disagree on the basis that it doesn't tell me what the change actually means or : and what impact a reduction will have on safety of children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management are essential to the running of schools. Without them, head teachers would need to be trained in plumbing, electrical repairs, roofing repairs, painting and decorating etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again this service is already been cut further cuts will cause damage to buildings and people which will result in further and greater costs down the line.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cleaning and maintenance of schools should be supported making them nice places to be to.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools are falling apart with the funding they have now- I don't know how they will stay up with less funds.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	do not feel that the proposed cuts to Education will be of any benefit to the children and young people of West Lothian, to teachers in our schools or to the support staff who work tirelessly every day for the benefit of schools and keep the environment safe for us all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I cannot see how this can work. Surely there needs to be a basic level of facility management staff in buildings and this cannot be reduced further?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, it's the lower paid who suffer. Janitors are already stretched between several premises and are unable to provide the soupy they once did.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Many buildings currently share facilities management (1 person who floats between). This often has an impact (although mild) on safety, security and facilities throughout the day until the next time they are in.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities in school are already lacking. This would compromise staff and children safety to reduce service further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As we have closed a number of local facilities, schools can often be the best place for people to access exercise facilities. The impact can be the loss of community groups altogether as alternatives are often too expensive. Being part of a community group myself, we are already discussing the future of the group as costs of renting a space for an hour or so are too large out with schools. The impact will be felt by individuals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It is impossible to meet the needs of our children. This 'multi agency' approach does not work when schools cannot get in touch with anyone/ endless waiting lists - taking money away from these services is a disaster waiting to happen and the wellbeing of our children should never be put on the line.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reducing these support services in schools will have a negative impact for all. Reduced hours of facilities management staff would put increased pressure on this service and in turn, will impact all staff. It will limit the experiences we can provide for children out with school hours which for some children is the only time they get these experiences. Potential earlier closure of school building will have an impact on the ability for teachers to undertake tasks needed done out with the class contact hours and will impact on the already unmanageable workload.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Potential earlier closes of school will reduce teachers' flexibility for the workload. This is already barely sustainable and limiting this would increase pressure more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reducing the support services in school will have a negative impact on all. Reduced hours of facilities management staff would put increased pressure on this service and in turn, will impact all staff more broadly. It will limit the experiences we can provide for children outwith school hours which for some children is the only time they have those experiences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FMS has already been cut and playgrounds and entrances are often littered with glass/debri/unsafe.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reducing the support services in schools will have negative impact for all. Reduced hours of facilities management staff would put increased pressure on this service and would therefore impact all other staff involved in this environment. It will limit the experiences we can provide for children outwith school hours which for some children is crucial as this is the only experience they have in this area. Potential early closures will reduce the flexibility that teachers have for their current workload. This is already unsustainable and this would increase the pressure more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reducing the support services in schools will have a negative impact for all. Reduced hours of facilities management staff would put increased pressure on this service and in turn will impact all staff more broadly. It will limit the experiences we can provide for children outwith school hours which for some children this is the only time they have those experiences. Potential earlier closes of school will reduce the flexibility that teachers have for workload. This is already barely sustainable and by limiting this would increase pressures more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management services are already cut and they are unable to carry out the tasks required for the safe ad successful running of schools. For example classrooms are unclean, paths are not cleared on snowy days, maintenance tasks can't be completed in a timely manner. Reducing this service further will limit the experiences we can provide for children, increase the pressure on all school staff as they scramble to cover the tasks which are not getting done.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reducing the support services in schools will have a negative for all. Reduced hours of facilities management staff would put increased pressure on this service and also impact all staff. It will limit after school experiences we can provide for children outwith school hours, for some children this is the only time they will have these experiences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	You've already cut here. Schools are having to share janitors and I suspect the workload will deter applicants.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	There is already not enough facilities management in schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As already mentioned, don't reduce the hours school is available but increase them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If this proposal involves reducing the schools opening hours before and after a pupil's school day I disagree with this. Teachers need early and late access to the school, without the presence of pupils, to do jobs that can only be done in the school building, for example wall displays, photocopying, laminating, printing etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reducing opening hours of the school building will result in less funds being raised by way of Lets. Facility Management Assistants provide a huge money saving to schools' DSM by undertaking any quick remedial jobs rather than requiring a subcontractor to be brought in. It might be more beneficial to arrange for some training for all FMA to be able to act as a handyman in each building - having the initiative and empowerment to tackle small jobs before incurring inflated prices from contractors.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This will only lead to more health and safety concerns in a building that is already not fit for purpose. There are fire doors that do not close properly, leading to an unsafe environment as anyone could enter the building. There are several classrooms with persistent leaks in the roof which has been ongoing for many years, leading to pupils learning being interrupted and equipment being damaged.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We have little enough already and in an aging building that requires significant upkeep.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This service is stretched as it is. With further amendments the service provided will not be effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management is key in schools. They keep the buildings in good condition therefore saving on more expensive repairs. They are also very necessary for safety and security for the entire school community; With winter approaching they are needed to ensure safety on paths and car parks for all school users.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The FMA cover in schools is currently insufficient. It has reduced gradually over the years and in some cases there is now regularly 1 FMA covering a full secondary school with no cover when he goes for his break. I would suggest that managers of this service should be based in schools to be able to review and streamline the service, moving resource where required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	There are already times without FM staff in school. This can be difficult to manage if there are any buildings or facilities issues, particularly in schools where we can't close a toilet block and expect children to wait.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School is a safe place for children... reducing this time will only leave our vulnerable and even our children out into teh world under prepared	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management in schools is already stretched beyond it's means - reducing this would mean that less and less jobs would be able to be carried out around the school that are already being done. The facilities management team do a whole lot more than just their day to day jobs within the school which they are not recognised for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The facilities management in schools are vital staff who are currently stretched very thinly. Schools (especially the community schools) should be open more hours and not fewer in these times, as people look for cost effective activities to do with their children and places where they can be warm. Schools could be utilised far more to be available for local communities to access for evening classes, fitness and other sports and clubs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This depends entirely on the nature of of the review and its outcomes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Gives kids somewhere to go instead of being in the streets hanging about getting upto no good	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cleaning standards in schools should be maintained as a priority as cuts have already impacted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools need to be kept clean and well maintained - COVID was a prime example of this and showed how essential our maintenance staff were at keeping us safe.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	facilities management staff have already been reduced considerably to the point where some buildings have dangerous levels of cover.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	7.30-8:30am and 3-6:30pm cover should be available for all children to cover working parents - majority of parents are now working this isn't a recent changed but many more will need to increase hours/days to allow for increased cost of living	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School facilities management already seems to be pretty poor - needs more funding if anything, certainly not yes. I don't support this!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Would this cut down on extra curricular activities for children and clubs out with schools that use school halls. If that is the case then this should not be reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management in schools have been reduced many times over the years and staff have to cover more than one school. Playgrounds don't even get gritted properly in the winter due to this and accidents happen. Stop reducing staff!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School services should not be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Believe it when I see it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	less jannies less teachers?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure how this can be cut more!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management in schools are integral to the running of school events and upkeep of good working/learning standards. Any move to reduce the amount of staff in the building would have a detrimental impact on services the school can offer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sweat the school's assets for re-investment in their upkeep. Create more ongoing jobs, not less, for the same money whilst self funding facilities upkeep.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools are poorly maintained as it is with the same problem being reported over and over and then when they are 'fixed' they are an issue again within days or weeks. Reducing janitorial time is unthinkable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I hope this will not mean reduced after school clubs bra cause no support staff to keep the building open.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again making it more difficult for parents to work and not having these provisions in place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, this is looking at some of the lower paid staff members, I fail to see how you can reduce hours without increasing the workload for other staff, in which case significant wage rises would be required, if they stay within their role. As far as I know, there are already far too few staff and way too many managers within FM.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No cuts at school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, these have already been reduced! I'm interested to see how this can be streamlined as they are already short staffed, when there is sickness what happens then?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Your facilities management arrangements are already inadequate; especially in terms of technical support - where you have no respect for skilled people; actually seeming to fear the very experienced/capable! - This can only make the situation much much worse and cost more money for a poorer result in the long term!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This needs careful assessment, especially when facilities management is what kept the country going through the pandemic	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We cannot reduce the opening times for schools. However activities out with school hours does need to be taken into account.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Disgraceful attempt to reduce staff - dishonourable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	fma was hit badly, last time around, lots of cleaners on temp contracts lost their jobs, then service could not be met, then/now still trying to get cleaners back. need to look at fma management.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am concerned this will have an impact on the wider school life and local community. School buildings provide a vital community space which is lacking in most towns in West Lothian. This would impact on clubs, community organisations and the wider life of the school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	My daughters school is already a mess with plaster missing & not been painted in years. The head says there is no money to fix this. What more can you cut away?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FM is already stretched. Being able to use school as community hubs should be made easier	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Don't know what this is but education is getting hit again.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools need to be well maintained otherwise all these new builds are a waste of money so keep looking after facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The school estate needs to be safe and secure as well as being maintained, the saving here sounds like something has to give. I would be very careful with this review	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Still have to ensure that all statutory examinations of services are carried out by trained and approved personnel at correct service intervals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Buildings are poorly maintained as it is costing huge sums to repair or replace when they become unsafe. Focus needs to be on maintaining facilities to a higher level to prevent this in the future. Cheap building models have not worked in the past with schools needing to be replaced completely	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	oh right yes let's reduce the cleaning further then- that will ensure we all remain safe from covid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This sounds council speak for a further reduction in facilities management support, I do not see how this can be achieved.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I totally oppose reducing the number of hours in the school day	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	They are short staffed enough as it , to cut staff would be silly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The role of facilities management in school is already stretched and there are differences between caretaking and managing the premises. Opening up and securing the premises is the priority and other areas are left to responsible person to deal with. Consideration should be given to this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It is already very difficult to get in contact within anyone who works in Facilities Management in schools at the moment due to janitors working across multiple schools across the council. I cannot imagine how cutting this budget will be of benefit to school staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The facilities staff within schools are essential and work extremely hard already, do not make cuts to them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This looks like an undercover plan to have council facilities open even less. Why? Does anyone in the council actually want to serve the community that pays their wages?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I would think this would again depend on the individual needs of each school and the ability to need those needs inline with health and safety of all the pupils, staff and families accessing the service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	So schools will have even less janitor support and this will mean that they can not open when families need them to especially for after school clubs or other events	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Threadbare service already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Don't agree with this, and how can this possibly save £1.1 million?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Is this a euphemism for staffing reduction, redundancies? People who live and work and contribute to WL being made unemployed. And to think only two year ago we clapped for them each night from our doorways. Tis short term businessification of public services is a disaster. The work needs done, and it needs done by people who are paid well, and who do their job well. A school cannot run without them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools are community buildings & therefore you should ensure they are still available for community use, at times to suit clubs etc that are outwith school hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Primary schools should not be open after school for external groups such as brownies/scouts/karate etc... we should maximise lets in community centres, secondary schools, churches, village halls. It is not making profit, if anything a loss due to increased energy prices.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No school should be left without at least one full time janitor.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Do not support at all, this will harm children's life opportunities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools need facilities management. The cleaning staff and facilities staff has already been reduced. How are further reductions going to be made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This service has already been scaled back in schools - FMAs have a shared rota to cover schools in their remit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	A janitor is already spread over 2 schools, if sharing further how will this work in the winter. Has this not already been done in previous exercises. Do not see how any more staff can be taken out this area what a direct impact on service whether that is a dirty building or lunches being pre cooked or more uncooked food at time when some kids will only be getting one cooked meal which is at school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not enough FM at present within our school's to provide cover. Too many managers and not enough on the ground doing the work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools need to be well maintained. Teachers and school staff have enough on their plate without having to take on duties that should be done by facilities management which is exactly what would end up happening if this service is cut more than it already has been.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sufficient schools should remain open in the community to promote the health & wellbeing agenda that is so important at this time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FME's are already spread over numerous school buildings and many of the duties previously done by an FME based in a school are already being picked up by PSW teams within school eg cleaning up if a child is ill/accident	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We really need janitors on site !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Quality in education also means the required level of support necessary for students during their time in school. If this is compromised, it is difficult to deliver such quality. So it is important that it is given careful consideration before reducing manpower, decommissioning or reducing such facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It feels like a lot of cuts to services and hours in this area. if the time and resources can be better managed then thats good, but we have to remember that these children are our future and society doesn't seem to be going in the right direction as it is so any chnages have to be for the best of the child's development.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Lack of provision of facilities management services to schools would impact on the time teachers have in school to prepare/resource lessons. It is also important for pupil safety that easy access to facilities management staff is maintained in case of property issues that regularly occur during the school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FMAs are already very stretched in schools. Reducing this further will have a massive negative impact. My school has 1 FMA who works across 3 different schools already. How can this be reduced further?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities staff are a huge part of the smooth running of a school. Again another cut that could potentially affect children in West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	With cleaning staff at a minimum in some schools, proper cleaning is not happening. Post-covid this should still be a priority to keep young people & staff safe from viruses.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Think this would be hard to reduce as activities are already being streamlined to maximise productivity	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It should not be underestimated how much work the facilities management team do within schools. A number of our school buildings are getting older and therefore maintenance should not become a secondary focus.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Stop making schools worse. Do your job and improve things for the sake of the children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Could schools not be used for communities during weekends and holidays? Letting out rooms and halls may lead increased revenue as well as strengthening communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FM service contracts are massively financially inefficient and see very little return on the financial and operational arrangement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I think that there should be better learning classes in high school S3 upwards for dealing with finances mortgages etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ensure public can access facilities throughout the year	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Concern about safety of school staff if cover not appropriate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I disagree with this proposal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I disagree.... I think we need more playground assistance....not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I disagree with this proposal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The use of schools for activities out with the school hours would be a shame to miss out on, especially for organisations that access the facilities to support extra curriculum for children	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FM in schools have a vital role. To cut down on them in schools is not a wise idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities Management is already shared amongst schools and appears to work well, however whether further changes can be made whilst maintaining efficiency and meeting needs remains to be seen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This suggests that access to community aspects of schools and community based activities may be reduced or limited for the public? And does 'revised cover arrangements' mean more pressure being put on to caretakers to cover different schools and community settings? I would hope that community access and provision wouldn't be impacted, and that caretakers wouldn't be stretched with their working shift patterns	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Some schools are dropping to bits! Don't make cuts here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools work well with their own janitors trying to cut this service takes away that continuity many staff and pupils enjoy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Many different clubs use the school's facilities, including clubs that are not affiliated with the school. How would this affect not only the school but the community. It reduces peoples extracurricular learning. Something they use as a release when they are stressed could be cancelled and they may not have an alternative. Parents who work and cannot pick their kids straight from school would have to look for alternatives to get their children looked after which could be expensive for families who are already struggling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again another concerning proposal for our cleaning and janitorial staff who work tirelessly to keep our schools functioning. Cuts will have direct impacts on children, for example access to things like potential after school clubs etc. as access to buildings may be cut short. Access to clean and safe buildings of staff are over-stretched. Appropriate and timely repairs may also be of a concern.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not the time to cut back on FM services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This should have no negative impact on pupils ability to participate in after school activities or use facilities that can promote health and well-being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	so basically cutting access to school facilities for out of hours school activities that schools may be used for by the general public; not a good idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	See my answer to 1H Whilst a review of all commissioning services is probably essential I do not see how you can guestimate the estimated saving unless the review has already taken place (which again would make this 'tick box consultation')	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No again provide the service needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Keep all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am concerned that health and safety, and wellbeing of FM staff might be compromised if they have less time to fulfil their duties in each establishment. They are often over stretched as it us.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	facillities management staff are vital and should be increased not cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, please think of the childcare implications for parents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More cuts, not content to close the Low Port Centre, WLC are proposing further funding cuts. You get yourself out of a recession through education not the eradication of it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If children are denied the use of facilities because of revised opening hours EG.after school activities then once again this leaves them with more time and nothing to do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Already at bare minimum. You may just aswell tell everyone to school from home. Absolute joke cutting anything from schools and youth services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am sure this means less schools opened for community activities, which I do not support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Depends what revised opening hours in schools means. Many clubs and groups use school buildings out of hours, this should not impact them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Would not have thought any further cuts were possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised facilities management in schools	This is at bare minimum level anyway and need to increase funding for more activities at schools at all levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More cuts for poorer service it sounds like. Not for me.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Agree as long as maintenance and janitorial staff are not reduced. Some school buildings are in a poor state with current provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I hope the phrase revised cover arrangements is not code for reduce.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	'Seek revised arrangements'. Rather a short note; but maintaining facilities management.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As long as this isn't reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Each school should have its own facility manager. At the moment they have a few schools to cover. Reducing them will further will have a negative impact for schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Well I suppose you want as many activities as possible in selected windows to manage energy requirements. This needs good management locally, bottom up, not top down. Speak to the folk doing the job!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	You mean you cannot just schedule 90% of maintenance outside of term time. Changing a light bulb or broken window or toilet might still need doing though. Suggest you don't pay 500 a bulb	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Potential opportunity for one provider for all school FM? This could benefit the organisation through increased economies of scale etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools in particular are already cleaned less than ever before. This should be increased not decreased!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools are an integral part of the communities. Closing schools early will deny our children the opportunity to access extra-curricular activities and clubs. Cutting this budget will yet again hit our children hardest.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Does this mean cutting janitors' jobs? They do a very important job in our schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Janitors are rarely seen in schools as it is so hopefully this would not reduce.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We should follow Japan and have pupils clean their own schools. So many great life lessons and life skills to be learned through this. What a great name West Lothian would get for piloting this too!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools must be allowed to remain open after time to provide a cultural hub for children and youth. ; The use of the facilities can be paid for by service providers of after-school activities, or by shifting the after-school activity from other council facilities - consolidation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I feel that there is currently too much reliance on third party facilities provision in schools, likely brought around by the private involvement in school renovations over recent years. Council staff maintaining council buildings and facilities seems much more cost effective from an outsiders point of view.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	There are times when teachers need to be able to access the building outwith the hours we actually teach e.g. to organise ourselves, sort our photocopying and to complete marking. Even though parents night, although currently online, some peoples living circumstances mean they still need to complete parents night from the school premises.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The current service provided by in-house facilities is good but the service from external providers is sadly lacking. I teach in a labe with one source of hot water (this is the design of the room) but this one source has been out of action for weeks while I have been waiting on an external contractor to fix a leaky pipe. This is a job I could do myself! Cleaning up after experiments is done by me - I boil a kettle and fill a basin and wash up. This is not part of my job and it takes time away from other valuable activities - I am a very highly paid cleaner at times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not good if this reduces facilities management time in addressing school issues and if it reduces the tools to keep schools in legal working order (not the case at present as we know in some cases) - especially as many classroom environments would not be endured by many office staff - public or private. This is not good for morale of maintenance or school staff . Staff are WLC most valuable investment and assets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It would be beneficial if the parents could get a schedule or time table what the children do in P1-P5 which at the moment seem not to work at my school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure thus would support community school which offer that vital after school facilities for families	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Consistency required across schools on this front. Winchburgh offers so much more than linlithgow and Broxburn which is unfair in comparison due to the facilities there. Furthermore infrastructure not there for transport to these places	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Working conditions of employees must be considered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Some children rely on the after school services, sports clubs. If they are from poorer communities they get support from these groups and in certain circumstances it keeps the children off the streets and out of trouble	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The only cuts I can see to opening and closing is that community associations have the ability to open and close for evening and weekend let's but it comes with concerns over key holders and what they can have access to .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, how will this look for staff and children? How many members of staff will lose their jobs? Are we going to rely more on the current poor service of internet providers?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Already stretched service with schools having large chunks of the day without facilities management on site already and teaching and support staff having to undertake facilities management roles. Further cuts here are difficult to be positive about.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	At the moment there are no activities in my son's school. I am happy that they provide a breakfast club. After school activities, not for the purpose of childcare, but for the children to gain opportunities trialling different sporting activities or the like needs to offered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This would need to be carried out carefully as in the winter months they need to be onsite early to clear snow and ice for safety.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	For some children in our society, school is the safest place they can be. After-school clubs and other activities provide these children with a safe haven. Does this cost saving suggestion have a direct impact on these children? Have you worked with Head Teachers to find out who this impacts most?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What impact will this have on children in schools? Will there be a reduction to services- if so I don't agree.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Would this have an impact on Early Years provision who are currently open to 6.30pm Mon-Thurs and ; after school provision.; I would imagine heating the school at the end of the school day until this time is costly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I worry how this will effect people's jobs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Children need to be in school not just for education how is the above going to help. Facility management is always needed in a school and if not available falls on to school staff that are already worked off their feet.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If this impacts on extra-curricular clubs/activities then again it is the young people that will suffer greatly. As a secondary teacher, I see how vital extra-curricular activities are to developing a child's rounded education in all different ways. Our facilities management staff are essential to the smooth running of the school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Does this mean that schools will not be open beyond the school day so that community clubs can no longer access the facilities? Sports, BBs, guides etc?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What would the the additional negative impact. Would this potentially mean schools not being utilized for clubs and other potential social aspects? Need to elaborate to the big picture.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management are vital in the operation and upkeep of schools and must be protected	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I do not not think anything should be changed with the schools as it would not be in the childrens best interests also changes to the school day would impact on parents and other carers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The current facilities management leaves schools with times during the school day without a janitor. Any saving here will further compound that time when schools with pupils in don't have janitors available. Oppose	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Safety and a excellent working environment is key to learning any changes should not compromise that	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Having a better opening hour in schools will bring alot of benefit in different way such as parents have more flexibility for working, hence enhance efficiency.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I do not feel schools can cope with any cut backs in this area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No. Keep funding schools at or above current levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Our school has a leaking roof and draughty windows. And almost no extracurriculars. You want to do *less*??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure about this one. Schools already don't have full time janitors I don't think. I would hope you wouldn't outsource these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The statement doesn't really tell me anything. Any move to outsource FM work would be a bad idea as third-party services invariably lead to a decline in standards.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Do not see where this could save money .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The on premise facility management teams that my child has encountered go far and beyond their respective duties and I believe a thorough review of the activities actually form at the lowest level should be conducted in relation to where cuts could be made as opposed to perceived management beliefs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	So teaching/PSW/other school staff will have to do the jobs instead. If schools are closed earlier teachers will not have the time to complete planking, organisational, display work and other jobs that need done after the children go home.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools need these to run efficiently. They are already shared between schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Should be increased, not decreased, as conditions in schools have deteriorated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Will this mean no one dedicated member of staff for each school?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I would not support the reduction in support for schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools need to maintain current opening hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FM staff are absolutely crucial to keeping schools working and providing a safe environment for pupils and staff. Their last change in working pattern resulted in stretching them too thinly already and more overtime - surely that can't be an efficient way to operate?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools are already not cleaned well enough (there are flies in many areas of my building, as well as stoor everywhere), nor is my building maintained in any meaningful way. The building is falling into disrepair (e.g. every fire door seems to have a window missing, a stiff or broken hinge, or a dodgy handle, for instance; there has been no meaningful refurbishment of the fabric of the building in a decade).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Keep all work in house and do not outsource to profit driven suppliers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This will inevitably lead to after school activities being reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Third party facility management will always in the long run cost more as they are not made accountable by the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No job cuts!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Please don't cut school staff - there are many other ways to save the council money. Doing away with the rule that schools can only purchase goods from certain (usually the most expensive) sources for a start. More efficient energy use (heating and lighting not being used unnecessarily). These won't save millions but it's a start.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It is complete madness to expect the attainment levels of pupils, the morale of staff and the physical state of the buildings (speaking from experience, some already in a poor condition thanks to shocking procurement procedures and decisions, ie cheapest quote gets the job, never finishes on time, children and staff having to work in what is essentially a building site and then as a result of the poor workmanship, constantly having to repair the shoddy job that was done in the first place!); ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Getting rid of facilities management workers as well as teachers, pupil support staff and administrative staff? How is the council expecting schools to actually function effectively? ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	How can you estimate a saving before you have even renewed it. There are no activities in schools. They are only just beginning to start back since covid. How can you reduce the opening hours of school without affecting the learning of pupils. Stop reducing what the kids get when they get nothing as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We need facilities management in school, I don't think we should cut cost and we should definitely not subcontract out, as the subcontractors are half of the councils problem. They get the contract, don't do the job properly then the council need to go out and redo the job costing the council more money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities staff do a significant amount of 'hidden' work that keeps schools open and operational. With winter approaching, their role becomes more 'visible' in ensuring schools and their grounds are safe. ; Cutting this back would again have a very negative impact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management staff are a credit to the school and are needed throughout the whole school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management are vital in running of school. To cut time suggests school staff may not be able to stay in school for a significant amount of time leading to poorer learning experiences yet again for the children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Already this service has been cut to the bone and can't deliver a good service to schools .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, the FM staff have been cut several times over the many years that I have worked in schools. ; They are essential to keeping a school going and should not have the hours/staffing reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	some of the council services ie FMA cleaning , kitchen staff are nearly working short staffed as it is without more cuts , ie FMA opening 3 schools for 6am to allow cleaners in. when they dont start there shits till 6am constantly under pressure to start well before there start time .worse when its ice or snow having to clear paths for access for schools. If the council had to make cuts it would be very hard to maintain this service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	school facilities are stretched as it is . 1 FMA opening 3 shoools for 6am when they dont start until 6am .constantly coming in early before there start times , no support in the winter having to clear footpaths for Teaching staff and pupils . FMA do a vital job in the schools for very little thanks. on the other hand it has been nown for 1 or 2 not to stay at there work ie go home when they should be in school. on the point of opening school the FMA s have to use there own cars to get to the other schools as quickly as they can but could start to walk which would Couse delays in getting the schools open or other duties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Please do not reduce janitorial services any further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities Managers are already only on site in schools for part of every day due to their rota scheduling. Reducing this further will lead to higher instances of machinery malfunction and major safety issues in buildings hosting large numbers of our young children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Janitor is already part time 😊; Might be easier to have general purpose staff on a best endeavours basis. Or encourage more home schooling with a drop off place for kids whose parents don't work from home?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Hard enough to get jobs done around schools without reducing services. Lots of day to day work needs doing too bring schools up to scratch so the needs janitors available all the time!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools will still need the cleaning and maintenance staff to be there when the facilities are in use, facilities should be rented out at a competitive rate, halls, MUGA pitch, pools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We really appreciate our facilities management staff and service in school. They do a great job and provide as good a service as they can when they are understaffed and underpaid. Please don't make things worse for them and us.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools struggle to get the service required without reducing support further. A huge part of school life is being at the heart of their community - they cannot do this if closed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Having spent decades in facilities management I am well aware of how easy it is to schedule works/activities without regard to the effect they will have "down the line" you require a checks and balances system to ensure smooth operations of required works and maintenance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management services are already shared within different buildings and are stretched meaning jobs are not always carried out. School buildings are also used for voluntary groups so would these groups be affected if opening hours were to be changed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	In my experience the janitorial service in school has been cut so much already that it is impacting on the school and groups which use it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Children need the use of the school premises for after school activities and extra classes where else would they be able to get access for these requirements.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools could be utilised more by the community, not less, they should be safe, warm welcoming spaces that can be used for all. When they are not open or accessible community groups often have to pay hefty let fees to operate in community buildings once owned and governed by WLC but have been asset transferred to community boards who can only stay afloat financially by charging their community for its usage. It makes absolutely no sense.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What would better scheduling of activities mean? I already hear constantly of toilets being closed, dirty or unusable. Constant mess on floors, food, rubbish etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	External lets etc are essential and allow schools to make essential income.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools should be at the heart of the community, with provision for out of school activities as well as non school events. ; The service provided by ppi schools is already inadequate	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If by facilities you mean janitors I'm not sure I agree. In Fife there are community schools so the facilities staff are key to helping schools make money out of use of the buildings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management criteria of what they do could be published. A janitor in Old fashioned terms does not seem to exist now. Facilities management should maybe have 5 responsibilities and these would be done well.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Restricting access will have a wider negative impact on the local communities who rely on these facilities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sounds as if stringent economies should be made but I am worried that this will diminish standards. If these cuts are now vital, why haven't they been investigated before?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Assuming that "revised" means less, we would have to understand the social impact of reduced school opening hours on vulnerable children. If it can be achieved while still offering safe spaces for vulnerable children for the same or improved times then it would seem positive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	already understaffed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	there are not enough facilities management staff as it is we did more not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure how this will work in terms of providing support to the community.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Presume that this means changing janitorial staff's working patterns and looking to save on overtime payments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We need more detail about this proposal. What exactly does it affect and how?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	See previous comment in relation to educational system.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Add these facilities as after-school clubs to help support parents to work, not to the school day when children need their teachers!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Thats a huge saving for only looking at scheduling and cover arrangements, is that achievable?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cut backs 9n staff again, better Scheduling? What does that mean. Your consultation descriptions are ambiguous, deliberately. This is a tick box exercise, waste of money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Biggest savings yet proposed; but least specified; Need for community to informed	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Please leave school findings alone - you are cutting and cutting and by next year school will only be for those who have parents who can pay for education	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Are you going to fix the plumbing and damaged buildings before making these cuts? Or just ignore it all until something collapses on a child?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Impact should be clarified? Would this remove access for community groups	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Difficultc to comment without full knowledge of FM terms and conditions.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Perhaps that is where a saving could be made, but when an individual is not responsible for their own personal property they do not take pride in the upkeep of it and buildings fall in to disrepair.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The implications for schools where some of the building(s) are used for community purposes are unclear.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I would be wary of giving FMA services to third parties. I believe if FMA activities are contracted out it will cost the Council more. Schools could be closed by half four each day though to save money if necessary.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	In 3A you talk about reducing the number of community centres. Ordinarily we would expect groups that use these centres to migrate to use schools for their activities. If you reduce the FMA resource in schools - how are we going to manage the potential extra demand?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Do j no or know what this means? Sack the janitor?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The changes are not detailed here to make a constructive comment on them.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What extra curricular activities are you planning to cut through this exactly?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If schools are open on a Friday afternoon then kids should be in class or have some activities available to them, for example sport.; Nursery's are open early and late, tiny kids spending far more time in school than the 5-18 year olds just isn't right.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Balance of outsource vs in house ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	How would this look in practice?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Does this mean all lets after 3.30pm will be swipe self access? Does this mean less jobs again in West Lothian?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Most of this has been outsourced to Xcite which has lead to a lack of communication between the school and Xcite teams which is causing real issues for groups who use school facilities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As per previous comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	this is difficult to comment on as not enough specific information is given.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Advertise the use of pitches/halls with online booking and payment methods - also open up for hire for parties (non-alcohol) events etc..	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No cuts to school budgets. ; ; Cut the bonuses of councillors and higher management to save money. Not the cost of education and safe guarding.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again these questions hard to understand exactly what you are meaning if you don't work for WLC not clear. Is this within the school day or evening facilities like after school clubs?;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ditto	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Are there examples of this. Will this impact on Parents who need childcare and given that childcare in West Lothian has proven difficult to find since the pandemic, could this affect the single working parent?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again would depend on what the review found	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What's the proposed review? How can I comment on this if you haven't said what you'll do. FM staff in schools have already been reduced so what else could you possibly do? Oh wait, this is WLC so you could make it a lot worse.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good. Also should every school have a business manager or could this be done centrally by HR?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Put nursery back to pubic holiday same has school save energy	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Our children should be the focus on how we support them not a cost saving	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	In teh long run they are the ones that become the adults that feed off our council	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Would also make sense that when FMs are on site that they integrate better with the school teams e.g. task on additional tasks that help others within the school. This would reduce the down time they have when on site.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FMA not being able to complete easy to fix jobs around the school, and having to put out to contract, also leads to over spend. Quite often the job either takes a long time to complete or is substandard. This then requires another call out for a 2nd person to finish/fix the job, I am presuming the 2nd person also gets paid for the job.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If headteachers are paid salaries in excess of most residents in West Lothian, surely they have the capability to do this already	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This question should be asked to school leaders and the facilities management service.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	There could be more choice/option of activities for children/young adults. ; Reasonable prices and time slots needed for more inclusion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	In my opinion life skills are vital..good old fashioned skills that will be useful.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The type of activities if possible should be carefully considered. Oppertunities for kids to grow in activities that help them to develop skills are vital.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, I'm struggling to understand fully what is meant by this question. My thinking is that it either means brokering out more Facilities management services to places such as Xcite or asking current Facilities Management staff to expand their Services to more schools etc than they do at present? I think I'd need more information to fully give and opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This doesn't make much sense. How would this work?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This is vague? Cover arrangements for class teachers? This is something that will be made worse by staff cuts.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I don't and can't have children so i don't feel it's fair for me to comment on this question.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What does "cover arrangements" mean?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	no involvement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What impact will this have?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	really !	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Unable to comment until I have seen an outline of what is proposed and what the revised cover arrangements are.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What is meant by revised cover arrangements ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As I've said before	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am not sure about this one.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I don't feel I have enough knowledge on this area to offer an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not enough info provided to make a comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reduction in extra curricular activities in other words	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I don't know how the baseline service for say, janitorial cover, is configured so find it difficult to comment meaningfully on the quantum of savings proposed and their service impact. The structure of the whole consultation is shaped in such a way as simply to convince a third party reviewer that a consultation box was 'ticked' despite the vacuous nature of the language surrounding these proposals.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Class teachers are already having to paint their classrooms etc. Again, needs clarification.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If you want cost savings, you need a more joined up approach, including the stakeholders who are the community groups and not just seeing them as a customer.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Linlithgow Academy needs upgraded. Unlike the other towns who've had brand new schools over the past 10 years the one school WLC boasts about is stuck in the 80s.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As above more teaching of manners would be appreciated	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More details needed. This proposal is vague. I do not agree with changes to the school day	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It is not clear how this would deliver a saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What exactly is facility management services see again not forthcoming of what use actually mean so no we don't agree	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management in school is a very important service. I assume the activities refer to school let's after school hours. Not sure I know enough to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What will this look like in practice?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What are these hours?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	How does this fit with other proposals regarding closure of buildings? Better scheduling of what activities? Revised cover arrangements should just be progressed as per normal workforce management arrangements, no public consultation required. Opening hours in schools - are schools closing earlier, how does this change if school day not changing, what about where schools are used by clubs out with the school day? How would this be managed to actually achieve a saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Hard to believe altering school opening hours will save that much really	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Previous restructuring of this important service has led to gaps in provision. Who will be responsible for playgrounds eg removal of litter and broken glass, gritting/salting in winter?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment to make.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not enough information to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This has no impact on me so I will refrain from commenting	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not enough detail of impacts to make an assessment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Would like to see review outcomes before commenting.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	How???? It is not clear how this is going to happen	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	An ambiguous statement for a massive cut in services!?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Don't know what this means.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As per previous comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I mean do you actually care what anyone thinks because the wording is not clear or easy to understand for this with no background in this. No one can comment without knowing the information this whole page has had no information no transparency!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We would require further details to provide any comments on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No idea what this means as you have not actually said what you will do. Significant amount of jargon. Plain English required.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	See Leisure Services re joint use of school facilities	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	See comment on lack of after school club provision in Calderwood	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As above - makes sense to review processes to keep learning and improving services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure what you are asking	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Uncertain what the impact of this would be.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I wouldn't want to be an area FM Manager - how to make savings in the current climate with fuel bills going up and food bills. Good Luck.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	In effect reducing the availability of school premises for community activities then I presume?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	How will this impact on PPI schools?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Don't understand how this will save money unless it means less access to 'facilities' for children	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Better scheduling or reduced?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This could be achieved if better management was used to send staff who lived nearer the facility that needed cover rather than send staff for a few hours to cover when they stay 45 minutes away	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	outsource the lot	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Can't comment on this proposal.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Sorry again we have do not have much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events, Leaving EU etc. My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Many facilities and building have already closed making great savings. Why not make use of this existing space?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We could be using our schools in the evenings to work with the most vulnerable (Including families under legal orders as part of their care plan). Families could be developing parenting capacity, strengthening bond and attachment issues, while learning new skills. This could also be used as a therapeutic space. Closing buildings earlier to save on staffing, heating and maintenance costs will save money but isolate and reduce chances for many of the vulnerable in West Lothian. ;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Is there the potential to concentrate out of hours activities to specific schools to save a number of them being opened?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FMA services have suffered cuts many times over the years and are still providing a great service despite this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As ELC can be open 50 weeks it is difficult for any repairs or refurbishment to be done. Plans need to be put in place to ensure repairs and upgrades can be carried out.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What will the impact be on service delivery?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	How?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	You should consider an increase in costs for use of school facilities after hours - hiring out halls, swimming pools, football pitches etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management staff could revert to being line managed by HeadTeacher which would improve the service recieved.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Don't know the detail behind this one so difficult to comment. However, school facilities are usually no used outwith the school day. If this proposal allows better use of the school facilities (and allows the closure of community facilities) then I would support this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Better to use twenty hour fma in the morning and thirty six hour in the evening using three on and three off on a rotation	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yes. School buildings are a huge resource that could be better utilised out with school hours. Can't the council take the facility management back under control. Surely it would be better value for money instead of paying a third party & dealing with all their constraints etc	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cutting after school clubs? Am I getting better at translating this?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	How will this impact after school clubs, community programmes, adults classes?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. It is proposed to rationalise the provision of council facilities and community centres across West Lothian and support community access through council or partner facilities within each community.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This is not very clear dies this mean reducing after school activities, less opening hours after school? Alot of children do enjoy the after school activities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If you are not cutting school hours how are you cutting the hours the schools are open	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Miroslavcervenak30. 9. 2026	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Please see previous comments regarding children and education.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I thought this was done anyway.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, not enough information to make any comment at all. Saving £1 million by doing what exactly?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ensuring no compulsory redundancies should be key to these changes.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Open school facilities to the local community at the weekend for a charge, e.g. gym & pool to provide income for the school/LA.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Safe entrances in wintry conditions are important for the safety of pupils, parents and staff.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cost effectiveness of any organisation should always be on going. This should be month to month, rather than yearly, whilst having a team of staff that is flexible to the modern working market to fill the demand, without being over ridiculous with regular changes in work patterns.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I want to see how much the Council propose to reduce operational and management headcount alongside discretionary expenditure against a matrix of estimated Council Tax payer service impact, and the existing baseline expenditure. Not fluffy words with figures plucked out of thin air at their head.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Mobile FMA's?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again why a review? Is there not in-house expertise to just carry this out.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More flexible working approach	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again shouldn't need budget cuts pressure to be doing my this kind of review yearly??	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I would recommend a points based system for the pupils to volunteer to help with these activities offering some work experience in school. A redesign to core.education services should involve basic starts at trade jobs. Electrical.IElectrical.I, Joinery, plumbing etc	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council works with local employers and colleges to offer work experience , apprenticeships and other work based learning.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	look into out of hours booking pricing, some of the hall pricing doesn't even cover the cost of the FM staff wages, never mind the heating, lighting and cleaner costs! these bookings should only be in core hour times to match the buildings open to close times.... and all monies taken in should be paid to the council first (not the school/comm ed centre), then once all costs have been covered, the remainder goes to the school/community centre etc	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. It is proposed to rationalise the provision of council facilities and community centres across West Lothian and support community access through council or partner facilities within each community.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	My son this term has joined a few school activities such as football, dance & wood work, he gets a lot of enjoyment out of this.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Reduce management in schools and with office staff	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The consultation includes specific proposals on reducing management.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Well, I would agree that the start of the school could be possible earlier but I so the working parents do not have to worry about to go late to work. However, any other changes than those are not necessary.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. No change to school hours is proposed.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This suggestion needs to link up the Customer & Communities in respect of the Asset Transfer for community buildings. Map the schools alongside the community buildings to enable community to access available buildings in ward, whilst reducing some	4. The council is already doing this.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council will continue to rationalise offices and utilise the partnership centre model across West Lothian. This includes identifying opportunities for closer working with partners.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Buildings are assets and depreciate, you need to maintain your buildings to ensure safety for children at school, if cuts to facilities in schools means schools are run down and maintenance schedules fall behind, this will cost more money in the long term with potential school closures, incidents. Children have already died due to poor building control in schools so this needs to be at the forefront of decision making.	4. The council is already doing this.	Health and safety is the first consideration for maintenance of assets. The council has been proactive in known areas of concern to ensure the health and safety of people accessing buildings. The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. Overall West Lothian is rated as having one of the best school estates in Scotland.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Childrens' safety & their learning must not be affected by arranging repairs & maintenance that would normally have been done outside of school term or school hours to avoid paying the increased level to Facilities.	4. The council is already doing this.	Unless emergency intervention is required, all planned maintenance works in schools are scheduled for non-term time.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Janitors working full hours currently paid would be a huge step forward.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ensure that staff have good inter-personal skills with all personnel.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	They are paid to manage	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Essential that the relevant trade unions are fully involved in the process.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Having put out 75 new bins at 5000 each and 9ver 30 vandilised I always question council finance, someone is making money off this bad that got to lay at (redacted) and (redacted) feet.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter which determines best practice for household services. The new twin stream service will improve the quality of material recycled and save money on disposal costs
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools should be a community resource with greater rather than less access.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Require additional opening hours in schools	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Covering staff is required more	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More schools need to have after school clubs in their own schools that parents could use and pay a fee instead of private after school care that is more costly and children will still be in their school environment and easier for parents to collect them.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Important to keep facilities open as long as possible	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If children had access to clubs after school this would greatly reduce the amount of children getting in trouble	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	all schools lets should be charged at minimum cost. reduction in the F.M.A coordinator positions and coordinator shift allowance should be scrapped as are all finish for 17.00 . As (redacted) quoted if you dont do the hours you dont get paid .	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am aware that facilities management staff cover multiple schools, which in my opinion is not the way forward. I favour the approach of a member of staff for each school, which encourages staff to have a sense of pride in the school they service.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools can be expensive for community groups to use, particularly at weekends. If some way could be found to reduce these costs there might be greater uptake	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School lets are already far too expensive for evenings and weekends making the space unusable and left empty. It would be more cost effective to reduce the prices to make it more accessible to more people. Rather than empty dead space. You can't resell an empty room.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools should be open more not less providing proper childcare so more adults can work.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School buildings are an excellent resource and provide a safe space for many people in our communities across West Lothian. Why would we seek to reduce opening hours. These spaces should be getting used to provide young people with the opportunities to make positive life choices becoming responsible citizens rather than hanging out on the streets. Why are these resources also not used after school to provide the opportunity for adults to improve themselves with access to night classes/courses	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Transfer more service times to WLL to allow income to be generated with a portion going back to the school.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Would like to see a model of access created that allows community clubs and groups to have even better access and ownership of school facilities outside of school hours. This could also include specific requirements for cleaning/maintenance which could negate a reduction in FM services. Would not want to go back to dirty classrooms and overflowing bins however. Are there learnings that could be taken from certain countries within Asia on incorporating pride and responsibility for classrooms and schools as part of pupil experience.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools which were previously "community" schools have already had much of the community element removed. This has been to the detriment of much of the older members of the community. This should be addressed, when looking at the scheduling of services.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. It is proposed to rationalise the provision of council facilities and community centres across West Lothian and support community access through council or partner facilities within each community.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am not entirely sure what this means but, in my opinion, schools could do with more after school classes	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. Schools offer a range of extra curricular activities. Parents/carers can discuss these with their school through the Parent Council.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools should be used by the community more not less and these staff are already stretched	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. It is proposed to rationalise the provision of council facilities and community centres across West Lothian and support community access through council or partner facilities within each community.

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Modernising our council	1I Revised facilities management in schools	Community schools were supposedly setup to allow communities to use the facilities. This has not been the case with them being charged exorbitant fees for "cover arrangements". The facilities are also in a lot of cases not available due to the school needing exclusive use. Community groups should not be charged for using these facilities. Some communities gave up existing spaces but have then found the resource is unaffordable and not fit for the purpose they were promised.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. It is proposed to rationalise the provision of council facilities and community centres across West Lothian and support community access through council or partner facilities within each community.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools need own janitor.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Schools should be open longer not shorter	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The council has demonstrated an inability to manage the school estate and short-term thinking, deciding to demolish the former West Calder High School and sell-off the land rather than to use it to temporarily decant the populations of ageing schools so that these could be rebuilt.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	could less staff be in out with the school day	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Cleaning needs to be accommodated
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Maybe having a set time that all schools close so that everyone knows when they have to be out the building in the evening.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Poorly performing Children should be cleaning, performing maintenance etc, call it a National Qualification or something to everyone benefits.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council is committed to maximising attainment and achievement for all pupils.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If improvements can be made in the efficiencies of facilities management, what were the "managers" of such facilities provision doing previously? Is this an area where unconditionbal redeployment, (sacking), might start?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Try hiring schools out more to make revenue	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again these services are vital to the running of educational and other buildings. Any changes must be considered carefully	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	fm services should be charging excite or will for fm staff being in high schools after 8pm and at weekends then high school fma wouldnt be left short handed every thursday and friday due 2 being 5 over 7 .	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FM services are poor value for money with no clear job remit	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Rationalising the use of buildings so that multi schools share opened buildings instead of all of the schools being opened individually could be considered.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I know many of the kids use three G pitches etc keeping them off the streets. It would be a shame if this effected them. But where we have community let's etc, then are these really cost effective? Possibly look at what we are charging for this and a facility person.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management is controlling and overly HSE focussed and slow.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	You already reduced janitor services after covid, you would be better keeping them and using their and their schools resources better. Pitches, halls etc all could be making you money but not if there's no staff!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Extra curricular activities are an important part of school community streamlining/reorganization of staff rotas would be better than simply reducing staff numbers. In that staff work shifts to cover need better.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities management requires a better system for reporting and recording jobs. Opening hours could be reduced dependant on let arrangements. Further conservation could be given for staffing over holidays and the use of such 'down time'. Staff could be reallocate during quiet times and remain on an 'on call' basis for allocated school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Facilities can be utilised better and receive funding for the council. The management of hiring facilities is poor and requires the involvement of 3 different parties who don't speak to each other. Refining this to 1 party to manage all facilities would save time and money. Therefor the structure would encourage external hiring of facilities (not to be costed beyond affordability of hiring the facility) and in doing so raise more money for the council.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I feel the key to the facilities in school is to provide beneficial facilities which support children and parents. Looking at what doesn't need to be costly but still beneficial will be good but again, to reduce spending in a time where children and young people have already had so much lost would create a massive impact and not how we would want our children to grow.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School buildings are invaluable assets for West Lothian communities. Facilities management staff are already operating on skeleton staffing levels and shouldn't be squeezed further. The recent out-sourcing of building lets to Excite has been a fiasco. Excite have not managed school lets well. They have poor communications with customers and facilities management staff alike and school building lets have often been messed up. Recently, a community group I;m involved with had a scheduled let with Excite on a rolling weekly let when council members rode roughshod over the let and took over the let, effectively displacing the community group at only a few day's notice. What's the point of having a letting system if local councillors just trash the system ?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We must take a few moments to consider the hidden work that goes on throughout the year by facilities management. Particularly as we approach the wintry weather!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	FMA services are currently very patchy - it appears Secondary schools, which granted are bigger, have a large proportion of FMA staff to primary schools - jobs loses would not be advantageous, realigned would be welcomed.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cookery etc. Fun but useful because then they could take food home and be used where resources are low exoensive school trips should be carefully spent on. Maybe local outings instead	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, efficiency is key but detail also needs looked at for individual schools?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Building lying empty and unused for large periods of time during day and outside school term is wasteful, these buildings can be used for other activities that would generate income	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	An effective and efficient facilities management approach would ensure a fair and responsive system. Centralising this to a core team would ensure skills were also best deployed when required.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Could more use be made of school properties such as hiring out sports facilities	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I think the revised proposal of the facilities management in school could potentially be cost effective. I think that FMA's should be required to have fixed holidays at certain times across the school year e.g in line with nursery practitioners have two weeks off over the Christmas period. However when FMA's are not in school many of their roles and responsibilities fall to for example clerical staff and Senior Leaders in school which could become a work load issue.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	That is an interesting proposal. However, you have to take into account that school staff need to be in school, after the school day, to access the resources that they need for planning and preparation and to fulfil their contract agreement.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Perhaps the Xcite Gym could help regarding after school clubs?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	School buildings should be fully utilised as much as possible and suitable charges put in place for use of premises out with school hours.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Better having groups in local areas	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This could be reviewed with rotation of staff and staff allocation as clusters rather than individual schools.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Many facilities are subcontracted out to mears group for example it would be cheaper for the council to employ direct	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	A Janie being paid 4hr on a Sunday to open (go play golf) and close a building is a shocking waste of money and resource	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Most FMs cover different areas better scheduling may assist with efficiencies.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I think this could be reviewed to ensure groups using the facilities could be using them at similar times, just slightly staggered.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not cost effective school janitors sitting at a desk on computer (not work related). Online system for things needing done/mended etc is very time consuming for school staff.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Better scheduling to improve efficiency can only be a good thing. However it should be noted that in my opinion, West Lothian still have a lack of facilities on offer to the local communities and need to review how facility investment can be achieved.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Possibly good option for areas that have community centres that can facilitate out of school events. Or could the schools charge for their use out of school; Hours?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Having FMA staff Located to schools nearer to wear they stay if possible would cut down in fuel costs and more environmentally friendly .; also if they are located they could also attend if the alarm is activated quicker.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	One of the schools FMA companies adds around £150 for any service it buys in for single repair. They also take days to repair light fittings that our own electricians previously sorted in a couple of hours.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	We are really rubbish at this. The private FMA companies are excellent at fleecing the public sector and we are rubbish at managing the contracts. WE are so pleased with the up front contract price we forget to see what it actually covers. In one building alone we have paid from bottled water, chilled water dispensers, etc while the building was closed for renovations then continued to pay even though the facilities were removed during the renovations.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Friday school day is a waste of all resources Monday to Thursday later opening would cut cost	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good make Friday a full day like they do in other parts of Scotland and the UK. At least allow people, particularly women, to be able to have opportunity to take full-time as well as part-time jobs and not have to turn them down because they don't have childcare on a Friday.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Some schools have good gym equipment could you raise money having open gyms to public pay as you go £2 a session.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Maybe getting some projects in the school is an idea? We're opening a Livingston Community Shed, these could go well together though.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. It is proposed to rationalise the provision of council facilities and community centres across West Lothian and support community access through council or partner facilities within each community.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Putting sensor lights in all schools and making them energy efficient would go a long way to save money regardless whether the school is open or not.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Stopping the ridiculous situation of janitors not being on school calendars may help in some small way with this cost. Having janitors working throughout the holidays in, largely empty schools, then taking their holidays during term time and having to be covered is nonsensical.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	At an event at my child's school janitor sat and watched staff move chairs and tables. The school was not clean either.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Janitors need to be consolidated and perhaps work out of a Hub. You log a job if you need a janitor. It should be term time only with skeleton staff on over the school breaks. ; All the janitor does in our school is sits in his office looking at his computer. We are constantly told by him that it's not his job if we ask him to do anything. A complete waste of Council resources. He seems to be able to start late finish early !? He tells us that he has to lock up or open up schools? So what does he do with the rest of his time ? There is a lot of money to be saved in this department !	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Better use of school buildings in the community for paid for activities would see the buildings better utilised & could bring in extra income.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Cover schools only in opening times and a short period before and after.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Look.at hours of building opening look at streamlining hours a d contracts.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Important service delivered by FMA's in schools. Hopefully no compromise after a review. Perhaps a change to shift patterns? Although pretty good shift patterns in situ at the moment to permit cover from early morning into evening to cover Lets, groups etc. Sufficient cover for Early Years Centres given the extended hours year round	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Bring as much in-house and have staff working flexible hours so work can be done during working hours after school or weekends	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If services were provided in house there would be more control and flexibility. There would also be more commitment from staff, they would no longer be transient on zero hours contracts at minimal wage. If they feel they are in a team they are more likely go the extra mile in the job. So there should be no contracting out of these services.;	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I'd hope that a review of facilities management out with the school day will also take place to ensure a greater consistency of approach as well as looking to develop a more cost-effective and customer friendly model.; Access to facilities through digital solutions and shared staff resource would be worth review/consideration.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The is an area that can be streamlined and reviewed in line with school hours, community schools do have activities booked there after hours long term bookings are acceptable however if these are run by an external organisation/committee who receive the funding for the lets then it should be there responsibility to ensure building is opened/closed or if it is necessary to be done by facilities management service then a cost should be attributed to the committee to cover some the of facilities cost. I understand from previous use that I paid a committee for a booking but believe that all the cost was towards their budget and no cost passed onto the facilities team/council - a % of all hall lets should be passed back to the council	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Does this mean that breakfast clubs and after-school clubs will no longer run? Surely this is detrimental to pupils' attainment and well-being?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Should never have put everything over to excite	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Having janitors sitting watching YouTube videos on laptop all day is waste of time...I taught for eight years and saw it	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I also think at primary school rather than teaching them nonsense about different genders etc let kids be kids and grow and be respectful there is no need to be forced this garbage onto the kids of today.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	OMG	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Better, you mean this is a thing... oft!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	My child's school starts at 8.30!!! Its a long long day for a child to get up at 6.30 to catch school bus at 7.50.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Don't know if this is in the appropriate place, but please ensure ALL our Schools keep their current single Sex Toilets, changing rooms etc.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Last week when we had roof problems we had 1 janitor in the school. Xcite have lets and janitors need to work shifts to accommodate them. We employed a "Special Needs" facilities person temporarily but because there was no transport to get him into school at 6.00 am he was not able to continue employment here, which he loved. Investors in People and especially disabled people should be a priority but none the less West Lothian Council terminated his contract at the school which I feel is contradicting the pledge of West Lothian Council.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I thought this government asked to be judged by its education, it's a terrible mess now and this will put our children's education in crisis	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	get rid of the snp problem solved	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I blame ***** (redacted)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Think schools should be close to full day on a Friday	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Unclear if the "better scheduling of activities" refers to being better for the students or the Janitors?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Yet another reduction targetting children's futures. These suggestions are getting more depressing the further down the list one reads. I certainly hope you weren't expecting any positive feedback on any of these suggestions as so far each one has been more moronic than the last.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The schools are the hub of some of our communities.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	1.1m seems an extraordinary amount to be saved in this area while still maintaining standards and accessibility	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Earlier you said that school times would not be changed seems a bit contradictory to me.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good for children to have these things	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Good for children to have these things	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This now makes 8.5 million in cuts directly to schools. Who cleans and maintains the schools?? They are already short staffed and poorly paid. Several have two jobs in different sectors of this due to the low pay.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More detail needed in order to comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, not enough detail to judge the impact.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More detail required, unclear how will this be achieved	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What does this even mean?!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again outcomes are 'better' but costs reduce ... please explain. Sounds too good to be true.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Insufficient information to know what the impact of this would be on schools	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Further detail would be required to consider impact	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again this is too vague, it does not really tell me what you intend to do. Impossible to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not enough information here to be able to comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	No detail. No way to judge impact. Not helpful.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What does this mean?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure what that means. Too generic	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, more detail required.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not really know how you will do it, need more details.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	There is no meaningful detail here, so it is impossible to comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Very unclear what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This doesn't explain anything.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	more information required	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not ideal.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Insufficient detail to comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	More details needed, again this sentence really tells me nothing.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to how this would affect the use of buildings by the community out with School hours	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Ooohhh, you're saving £1.1m by making things 'better'. I'll go for that level of vagueness, sounds like a great plan, especially if it goes wrong. Vague enough to wriggle out of.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not enough information	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again, children seem to be the main targets of any cuts you want to make. The exact opposite is required.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	more cut backs?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	my god, stop trying to cut school budgets.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What activities? Our school does not have any	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	See above. These questions are nonsensical.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Needs more detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Difficult to comment without more knowledge	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Unsure as would need more information to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again a proposal that is not clearly stated. This seems a lot of money to save so what is being suggested? How are the schedules and revised cover arrangements going to be made so that the changes are not detrimental to the schools and pupils	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again not enough info ..	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	If you haven't done the review yet how have you estimated the saving? More information needed on what is actually proposed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Again please be clear exactly what the cuts would be and the impact, I do not know if this would adversely impact anyone or not	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Better scheduling of which activities?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What does this look like?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I'm not sure how this is possible I would definitely need more information on this service being cut	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Explain what you mean by 'Facilities Management'? Repairs? Maintenance? Janitors? Cleaners? ; You need to explain what you are referencing for people to provide appropriate comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not sure what this means	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	How do you save money ... this is just words to make people think it's a good thing!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	To what extent?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This needs, like many sections, to be translated to plain English. If what's being proposed is less public access out of school hours then why not say that? Again, are there alternatives to current situation vs reduced opening hours - can there be a rota/volunteer key-holders?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services in schools due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What does mean to services and schools- changes to standards but what exactly?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Not enough information but any changes to service should be developed to minimise impact on teaching	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Unclear on the implications for children, staff and communities.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	This in principle sounds like a sensible thing to do but without further detail I can't really comment as I don't know what impact that would have on the school service.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	Seems like something that should be continually under review. Though not enough detail on how this will lead to savings. Again chicken and egg., the review should have been done first before identifying the saving.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	I am unsure how this would be achieved. The staffing in facilities are already covering a wide range of cover. I am however aware that the expected utilisation expected by West Lothian Leisure in secondary schools has not achieved the level of success as expected. I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What are these new hours, again I don't have any information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	What does this proposal mean in practical terms.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	It is unclear what is being proposed here.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response
Modernising our council	1I Revised Facilities Management in schools	None of these budget measures are transparent. Every one is dressed up in language that hides where the savings will be found. PFIs are a huge drain on public spending to save in the short term set up cost.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Using technology to streamline some of these processes should allow for a seamless transition for the public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No personal comment on this but savings look good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As long as changes to processes do not impact on service users.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on service users.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Should have already been done. Go ahead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	seems a sensible saving and wont affect services to Council tax payers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This is reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Brilliant stuff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree - with tight budgets, they should match actual costs and not have slack built in	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Yes that sounds promising	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again something must be taken away to make savings and £1 million is a very large amount.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Use of technology in this area should be maximised and could help with savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Increase automation in financial management is essential	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If this can be done without reduction in service it sounds reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	With the move to more digital based this seems appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This is exactly the area where streamlining the system and simplifying it would be beneficial for both service users and the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If it isn't broken why change it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Acceptable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As long as it isn't change for change sake.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If this mean jobs loses this in not good foe West Lothian, if not however a sensible proposition.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	People like that	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds good!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	That can help many families who are struggling with cost of living, really recommend this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As long as the financial savings don't impact on peoples income. Processing claims quicker and ensuring the money gets to where it needs to be more efficiently is good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Any automated system for indexing claims such as Universal Credit that speeds up the process for people can only be a good thing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I can only agree with the need to realign to match demand for support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in, but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	re-aligned resources to match the demand for support for customers and changes to processes such as Universal Credit seems appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Admin processing could be more efficient.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Best use of resources and beneficial to customers. No other comment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	this needs to be carefully considered, given the impact of this on vulnerable people with disabilities. Currently, there are people to speak to to get advice and support with financial matters for people with disabilities. It is important that this is not lost with automation as it would lead to increased poverty and health difficulties in a vulnerable section of society who need the support that WL currently gives.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	It is clear that financial planning and management arrangements are extremely effective, but that administration of financial processes will be made more effective. Ultimately these changes will be welcome as they will improve services for customers. For those people claiming benefits this support is second to none. It can be a very anxious time for vulnerable individuals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	A more streamlined and efficient services is required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Access to benefits should be made easier, not more difficult. People need to be encouraged to explore their potential options, and have easy access to support to apply. Shockingly, not many elderly clients clap their hands and shout 'oh goody' when confronted with the novella that is the Attendance Allowance application form (most of which asks the same questions several times over), and they are even more put off when they try to access knowledgeable support to complete this. Additional money for clients means that they are potentially then able to privately purchase services and/or equipment rather than rely on the largesse of the council, thus (potentially) allowing council resources to be deployed elsewhere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This does not make it clear how this will be done but any money saving by reducing red tape and administration is positive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Usually you hear about these sorts of changes after the fact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree if this means easier for people to apply for the support they need, less red tape is always good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	staffing efficiencies should be realised through natural attrition, and tasks absorbed by other staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This is again much needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Any efficiencies created in admin would be beneficial.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agreed. I believe focus should be on efficiencies within the administration and management before cutting services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This appears to be good financial management - modernising the allocation of resources to meet current, rather than historic, needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The council still has to have strong financial planning and management arrangements especially when these cost reductions are taking place. Future year financial planning is very important so the Council can balance the books every year and also to highlight problems in future years. It is visible that not all managers have a financial background so therefore the Council must have a high performing finance team behind them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	All in favour of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Hope this is successful with no one missing out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Save money where possible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I think support for customers on all benefits not just Universal Credit and changes to the processes involved is a good idea and a possible safety net for some.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Becoming more streamlined with fewer layers of management and use of technologies is the way forward. Remember customer facing roles are very important though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. Through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Any efficiency changes would be welcome but unclear why they are not in place currently	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree we should make efficiencies in the administration of financial processes but what does technical financial savings mean? Is this a £1 million pounds of staff cuts or does Finance Services have excess budget?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Unfortunately, I don't know anything about this process in theory it seems like the way forward.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This sounds good but I would be wary of relying too much on digital technology	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. Through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Especially during covid resources needed have increased, and now we have a cost of living crisis, so whilst I agree with the saving in principal we must be careful not to underspend in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. Additional payments have largely been funded by the Scottish Government.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As long as support for customers does not suffer this makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Many families rely on Universal Credit, it would be good if processes are more efficient and cost effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I support any internal process efficiencies which are of benefit to customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This is a fair proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	That's a significant saving from admin. Well done.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I support this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Excellent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree with the use of technology to support improving delivery here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Reasonable proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No objection	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree although more detail is required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This seems fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds sensible,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This will be postive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Reluctantly support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Fine in theory	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree on this one	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Automate as much as possible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As technology changes these should be reviewed regularly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree the council should look to improve the administration of its financial processes - some of the processes undertaken are outdated and staff intensive. Greater use of automation could provide more efficient services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This sounds reasonable to me although it's outwith my expertise.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I don't mind if they actually need this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This seems like a sensible change.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I am supportive of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Definitely required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Move services online	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Customers who transact with the council through digital services return positive feedback on their experience, however, we will always look for ways to improve the customer experience and welcome feedback on how we can do better.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Use available technology to streamline our work and make savings without cutting jobs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Don't really understand this either but if it works, OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Any streamlining to reduce costs without negatively impacting is a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Just stop wasting money ! it's a simple yet BRILLIANT idea is it not !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	A process efficiency sounds like a positive impact - surprised it hasn't been offered up before if so deliverable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree with this but applicants or those in receipt of Universal Credit must not be negatively impacted. Support services must still be robust.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No negative implications described here at all, why are you asking the public if you should make this saving, why are you not just making the savings. This survey doesn't make any sense? hope it didn't cost too much.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. There are no negative impacts from this proposal, it is provided within the consultation to ensure transparency regarding saving measures.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I assume if these were made more efficient then there would be less errors and less time required to be spent dealing with individual cases.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. For council processes and activities the council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Savings will be made with a robust and reliable IT services.; Cut management, trust in the software.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Efficiency and realignment. To be expected but makes for good tactics.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This sounds useful for people. As long as people are able to speak to someone and it's not all done via a computer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This is a reasonable adjustment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The phasing of spending on all budgets will reviewed and if spending is higher towards the year end this will be investigated.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again, in theory fine, but make sure adequate resources are there	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Is service becomes better, it would be good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Efficiencies may be fine as long as they work and don't cause additional issues. For example, I was recently informed that my single occupant council tax discount was being revoked as a result of not responding to two forms, sent by an outside company, that I did not receive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has to check entitlement to ensure public resources are being appropriately directed and to prevent fraud. Please provide this information to the council and your position will be corrected.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This sounds in theory to be a good move. Savings here could mean more finances to be channelled into more urgent areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Fully agree with this, pleased to see the council making savings that don't impact on direct services or outcomes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree....as long as it's comprehensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If you feel that "the council has strong financial planning and management in place" can you actually make them even better, that will be the test!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree that such savings should be maximised to reduce savings from elsewhere	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Streamlining and realignment will be worthwhile if delivery of services are not impacted.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	if it makes it easier to access then that is positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	should be investigated	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Look at all processes and how things can be automated or done quicker with less red tape.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Always worrying however sometimes necessary	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This should already be streamlined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds like a very good idea - something that should be done anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. Realignment of budgets can be implemented immediately.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Robust and reliable technology here with sufficient support should make this saving effective and seamless	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Hopefully works	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. Realignment of budgets can be implemented immediately.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Yes changing on to universal credit can be stressful and confusing so this is ideal and well needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Great if regulated properly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sensible improvements.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If I read this right, you plan to make efficiencies in financial processes to allow more resource to support other financial changes such as Universal Credit. Reasonable proposition	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Makes sense efficiencies can be made in these areas	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Hard to understand how already externally recognised 'effective' financial planning and management arrangements could find such extensive efficiencies, which makes me thoughtful of what this saving actually refers to. If the saving can be achieved without harming existing services and without reducing support for customers then it would seem valuable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	as long as services are still there and not changed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Efficiencies in processes and procedures should be encouraged.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is proposing to achieve efficiency savings through transformation of services and reduction of duplication and will maximise opportunities to automate processes to reduce manual processes.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Efficiencies, realignment, job cuts. Most of your savings come from cutting the jobs of those on the front line making an impact, rather than those with high salaries.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Cutting unseen staff can be an issue. The Corporate Procurement Unit lost staff during a previous restructure and has been having issues recruiting for vacant posts putting pressure on current staff. No further cuts should be considered	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	More staff cuts.....	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	having used the amazing service which is the advice shop in Bathgate this is a vital support for local community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Provision of service important	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again all online; no face to face; Equals no employees or less and more phone press 1 press 2 press 3 and cut off God help us! There will be lots of frustrated angry residents trying to function. Really this is not good enough.; Peoples mental health will suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Taking away from families that need it the most - not a great idea however even those that are not on universal credit need help at times too	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The phone lines for any benefit advice are already too busy.. with over an hour waiting time.. need more people not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The last thing we need is cuts on top of covid recovery and cost of living. Why are things so bad	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No don't agree with this either if use are talking digital currency stuff then thats a flat out not on ur life cash is king we the people say no way	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. It is anticipated that new technology will provide a service that a number of customers have been requesting for some time, however it is acknowledged that it will not be suitable for all. Payment through direct debit will continue to be available for tenants and residents and payments are accepted at Post Offices which are available in most local communities and villages in West Lothian. There are no proposals to move to digital currency.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Cutting funding and support is not going to help anyone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Need more help as there's no enough	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	grandparents would struggle with online	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Online chat and services aren't suited to everyone. We are still at a stage where not everyone has access to internet to make payments online	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer customers choice in the way that they access services, including telephone, face-to-face, email and contacts via the council website. We understand that some customers may find digital services challenging and there are alternatives in place to allow them to continue to access council services in other ways. The council must though find ways to reduce operating costs and make our processes more efficient and this will involve supporting more customers to move to digital services and making better use of technology.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If your financial planning and management arrangements are so strong why are you increasing council tax one year then cutting funding and resources the following year? Clearly your financial planning and management arrangements are not as strong as you state!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. Costs have continued to increase and by law the council has to balance the budget - this requires either increased income or reduced costs.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sounds like a plan to make employees redundant. I am strongly against this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This is a concern as staffing levels are at a minimum already in some establishments.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If the same resources remain after re-alignment then where are the savings? If you plan to reduce resources then you should say.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Does this just mean staff reductions?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	No. Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	It is impossible to comment on this as the proposal is opaque! An example or two would have been helpful.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The application process for universal credit is already an arduous and stressful process for many families. If services are realigned, does this mean an application would take longer?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Many people on universal credit are already struggling, would streamlining make them struggle more?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I have fortunately never had to access this service but I am aware it is generally poorly funded how can you make it better and not worse by further cutting budgets/ staff?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	What are the efficiencies?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	not familiar with this process	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I don't have any real view on this area, but it sounds like £1m can be saved by reducing staff to administer the simpler Universal Credit scheme - is this correct?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If your financial planning to this point has been strong, why is it all so wrong?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Would like to know more.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Does "make efficiencies in the administration of our financial processes, with resources re-aligned to match the demand for support for customers and changes to processes such as Universal Credit" mean that an already depleted team are going to experience more pain where people have left and have not been replaced ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	unsure how this will be achieved	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	What are these efficiencies?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Surprised that 'The council has strong financial planning and management arrangements in place and the effectiveness of those arrangements are recognised by our Audit and Regulators.' This being so how would you introduce further cost saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. Strong financial planning and management arrangements allows the council to respond to changes in circumstance with no reduction in service.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Why are resources not currently aligned with demands for support from "customers"?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not sure I can comment on this as not an area I am familiar with	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not enough information to make a comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	dont know enough of this are to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No relevant comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Will we still have to be placed on hold for hours when we contact these services ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Cannot comment as do not access this service	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not enough detail to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I mean do you actually care what anyone thinks because the wording is not clear or easy to understand for this with no background in this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The question does not give enough detail on what this is	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Why so everything so hard to understand	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comments.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Uncertain of the impact of this proposal.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not sure what this proposal means.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This sentence is not extensive enough to make a comment on how a million pounds would be saved.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not clear what this means. The Council should be supporting and advising people who need it.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	In what way is WLC's faith in Auditors and Regulators justified? Given this present review, is it not obvious that their oversight of previous expenditure and WLC's financial planning, if now savings can be made - must in previous years been poor and unacceptable? If an estimated saving of £1 million could be achieved should such expensive service providers be asked to repay their undeserved fees.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. External auditors are professional, well qualified and independent. Circumstances continually change and effective financial planning means identifying those changes and acting upon them. This is what is proposed by this measure - reacting to unexpected changes in a proactive manner.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	See previous answers on digital technology and the poor internet provision supplied to schools already.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. West Lothian Council invests significantly in IT provision in schools.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Don't have enough knocked or info to comment here	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I'm not sure how this is possible as it's already done on line and I'm sure there are as few staff as possible manning this service for the people who need it	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Require more information on this, as can't be expected to give an opinion on something with so little detail.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Perhaps this statement means something to those who work in financial services but I'm afraid it means little to me. Not very helpful.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As before, without more information I don't see how I could comment but it is already hard to get support from finance as there aren't enough staff.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Difficult to understand what this is proposing. It talks about financial planning and auditing so happy that there is more scrutiny and efficiencies made there. But why is Universal credit thrown in at the end, is this cracking down on fraud? There should be more working across departments. Not clear so can't make a full comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comment as I don't know enough about this to make an intelligent response.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	?? Unclear	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Arrangements in place which have been deemed successful by Audit and alleviate risk to the council need to be retained or at least a consultation to ensure that changes meet the standard expected. There has been substantial streamlining already in this area for some services which does not leave scope for further streamlining and cuts	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. Financial controls, where assessed as required, will be retained.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Pious words but no content. If Council has already 'strong planning and management in place' already how can further savings of £1 million be achieved?	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. Circumstances change and new opportunities become available which the council will utilise to maximise the financial position.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Helping people with benefit enquires/processes is a very important part of council duties	4. The council is already doing this.	At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	We need a robust financial team to ensure that council practices and legal requirements are in place.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has delivered balanced budgets each year since 1996. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Finance is one service that is very much over-staffed. However, the staffing levels are the result of poorly designed finance systems (the manual effort involved in keeping the data correct is tremendous). This is obvious when we need to answer simple questions on what we spend our money on and we are often unable to extract the information or we end up looking at spreadsheets that are kept separate to the system. If we can't easily extract information on what we spend money on then the system is not fit for purpose. I'd suggest you look at the design and frustrations with the system as well as the manual effort involved in, for example, year end. We are not able to produce year end figures without months of work - why?	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Council has the smallest finance department, with the lowest number of qualified accountants, of any authority in Scotland. Major improvements have been made to systems and reporting tools over the last decade, with very little manual input or intervention required for returns or information (e.g. Local Finance Return -LFR). The council has also always met the statutory reporting timescales for final accounts, even when Covid-19 meant many councils delayed publication of their accounts. The Financial Management Unit continue to investigate ways to streamline and improve reporting and processes. Suggestions to improve processes, systems and information are always welcomed and should be submitted to the Corporate Finance Manager.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	make sure the right people have the right recourses to survive	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Encourage employment, universal credits available to all or lower threshold to allow for cost of living increased - even the employed should get this and this would encourage everyone to seek additional hours employment rather than take the bare minimum allowance and not work as they are covered	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Auditing processes may find ways to support households budget better or find employment opportunities. In support of reviewing these processes to ensure those who are in most need receive the right levels of support.	4. The council is already doing this.	At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Continue support	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The administration of financial support must maintain a high standard. These people mostly are vulnerable and need to know they are being fully supported until such time as they can move on with their lives.	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Are you sharing services meaningfully across Councils or still raising your own headcounts in Admin, Finance, HR and clerking ? What work is being done with Social Security Scotland to help administer more effectively the doubling of the devolved social security spend over the next few years? I don't see that in your consultation paper so cannot make any conclusion concomitant or otherwise with the Accounts Commission or Audit Scotland. Nonetheless Audit Scotland already have stated that much more work needs done by public bodies on securing recurring savings.	4. The council is already doing this.	The number of staff employed by the council has reduced over the last decade. The council works in partnership with community planning partners and will continue to investigate opportunities for shared services. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again, you need to remember the number of people in poverty who cannot afford technology	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. Through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Will this be done before or after all other departments are stripped bare?! Surely if all other departments are being streamlined and "aligned" then financed need to be looked at even more closely and carefully than before	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The Financial Management Unit has delivered substantial budget and staffing reductions, with the council having the smallest finance department, with the lowest number of qualified accountants, of any authority in Scotland.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Supporting customers during times of change is required.	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Financial responsibility should be foremost in this proposal. Not cost cutting of essential services.	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	WE tend to focus on the big numbers and ignore the smaller amounts leaking out the sieve at the bottom of the organisation.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Financial Management Unit work with service managers to identify inefficiencies in spend. If specific examples have been identified they should be forwarded to FMU for further investigation.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Targeted support at those who needs it most is preferable.	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	How often are roadwork costs audited? It strikes me that the roads are in a poor state and much time seems to be wasted by workmen on the job.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	SPEND MONEY CHECKING IF EVERYONE ON BENIFITS IS ELIGIBLE	4. The council is already doing this.	For benefits administered by the council on behalf of national government, applications are assessed against national eligibility criteria. The council has no control eligibility criteria for benefits. The council robustly investigates and pursues all cases of fraud.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I feel like this is massively important and support and resources for financial wellbeing need to be readily available for people who really need them with a proactive approach towards this before people become hopeless and continue to struggle.	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	There should be a review of the non-statutory functions that WLC provide. There is a disparity on how these Services work compared to the statutory functions in terms of staff salaries and working patterns	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. Pay structures and grades are determined at a national level and council level. There is no disparity on pay levels within the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again this should be done yearly.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council reviews budgets annually as part of the budget realignment exercise. This enables amounts, such as those in this consultation, which are no longer required to be identified as a saving.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	You should have already been doing this.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I fear the "management" roles are they key financial drains when it comes to the council. To audit and regulate should be carried out now, not just when West Lothian council is asked to find money	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed. The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date but continues to investigate savings and efficiencies in management structures. Central support functions at the council are one of the cheapest of any authority in Scotland.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	There needs to be accountability and staff MUST follow up on fraudsters.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council robustly investigates and pursues all cases of fraud.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Scotland pays the highest tax in uk; Finance strength is not our best strength; As we are wasting too much money; ; I disagree this finance service is working correctly; ; Why are we not looking at the final salary pension; Bill and readjusting like the private sector? Final salary bill is out of control; ; Why are we not looking at the cost of taxis to take kids to school ; ; Why is the nhs spending a free for all out of control; ; I could go on...I know my self I am not getting bak what I pay in..only think I get is bins emptied	4. The council is already doing this.	Council tax in Scotland is lower than other parts of the UK and income tax for the lowest earners is also lower. The local government pension scheme has been subject to review and changes have been made to make it more affordable. The council is reviewing all transportation options, including taxi provision. The council has no control over NHS expenditure. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Don't forget to speak to the staff doing the job. Once their moans are out of the way, they may have some helpful suggestions and will accept change more readily.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The council continually wastes money and needs overhauled.; Blank sheet start again get rid of the clowns running the circus.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	use more technology to achieve this	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Need to look for better value for money. Pecos is not an effective system to save money and this is frustrating	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. PECOS is an ordering system only. The council utilises collaborative contracts where appropriate as in most cases this demonstrate better value for money. Concerns about the value for money of procurement should be raised with the Corporate Procurement Unit.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good idea . 3rd party should include in the auditing activities rather than internal auditor	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	All processes across the council should be reviewed on a regar basis to ensure they are; a) still required; b) still the most efficient process for delivery; c) not being duplicated or partially duplicated elsewhere in the council or wider public sector.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The effectiveness of these arrangements should be maintained	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	In previous employment officers were able to raise own Purchase Orders with on-line system for passing to manager/s for approval at the correct level for the value of the PO. Also, able to track individual POs for authorising invoices - invoices went straight to Accounts to avoid delays but needed to be approved by Officer with automatic transfer to manager for approval (depending on value). This meant that officers managing budgets could have an up-to-date record of spend without the time-lag associated with current system.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's financial reporting tool includes reports that can be run to provide up to date information in addition to monthly monitoring reports. In addition, many managers have access to the financial ledger which provides real time information. Anyone who does not have access to up to date reports can request these through their accountant.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The council has been striving to have a 'one stop shop' - people should not have to complete several forms to get what they are entitled to.	4. The council is already doing this.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. Most benefit is determined and administered by national government. Where applicable for council led benefit, the council will look to further streamline processes but data protection legislation prevents sharing of information with other bodies and for other purposes than the reason the data was originally collected.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Proper skilled staffing is the key	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to appropriate staff training to support service delivery.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	As there are multiple finance systems having a streamlined approach would be much better.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Why not shut down completely? That will save money	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	PECOS suppliers are over inflated. Money can be saved by allowing access to a broad range of suppliers. Money can be saved by a simple change here for example capping an Amazon purchase at £100, rather than paying 300% more for resources from PECOS.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	West Lothian Council has to comply with and competitive methods are employed. All appropriate suppliers can bid and contracts are tendered taking into consideration price, quality and total cost for all products contained within the contract. It is always possible to identify what seems a better price but staff costs in sourcing, ordering and administration of other suppliers may negate any perceived saving. The system used by the council for ordering goods is PECOS.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Having put out 75 new bins at 5000 each and 9ver 30 vandilised I always question council finance, someone is making money off this bad that got to lay at (redacted) and (redacted) feet.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter which determines best practice for household services. The new twin stream service will improve the quality of material recycled and save money on disposal costs
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Further explanation on alignment needed to be fully informed and give an opinion, although one saving would be to converse with local colleges and universities to get a list of full time students that are eligible for part or full council tax rebate, saving on constant paperwork and manpower chasing things up. Possibly set up an algorithmic system that all faculties can use year in year out.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Unfortunately Data Protection legislation would not allow information to be shared in this way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I think if everything did not have to go through pecos you would make more savings as the companies on that are not always the cheapest.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	West Lothian Council has to comply with and competitive methods are employed. All appropriate suppliers can bid and contracts are tendered taking into consideration price, quality and total cost for all products contained within the contract. It is always possible to identify what seems a better price but staff costs in sourcing, ordering and administration of other suppliers may negate any perceived saving. The system used by the council for ordering goods is PECOS.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	re aligned services by denying them access to services moneths up to the run up, to have skwd data to tie in with your alignment isnt planning, its abandonment of duty and due care of the people they are meant to help	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is transparent regarding all budget savings with budget savings having to be approved at full Council. Officers cannot implement savings in advance without approval by elected members with all reports available publicly.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Do not pay outside contractors for work the council can do	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Dedicated provision by the council cannot be outsourced to third parties.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ridiculous accounting rules that force public sector organisations to spend unused budget in the last 2 months of financial years should be stopped and councils allowed to transfer savings between areas without the budget area being penalised in the following year. Often see some crazy decisions made in run up to end of financial years just to use budget up.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council manages overspends and underspends on an overall corporate basis. Budgets are allocated to where they are most needed. There are no plans to allow carry forward of budgets. Any overspends or underspends are considered corporately, and available one-off funding is allocated to priority areas. The phasing of spending on all budgets will reviewed and if spending is higher towards the year end this will be investigated.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Given that the current arrangements are effective by your audit and regulators it does not make sense to make any changes to the current arrangements	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. To ensure council resources are not wasted, realignment of budgets will continue and does not impact on current arrangements.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	In my view any services which are not directly customer-facing can probably afford to be cut more, proportionately speaking.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	More fixed contracts in place.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Consideration of working with other Councils should be investigated	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Opportunities to work in partnership with other local authorities and community planning partners will be investigated.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No idea what you are describing, unless it to do with payment's of housing benefit etc... Whilst I understand you might want to do more online your customers may not be able to do so... Too many are literally counting the actual change in their pockets not their online funds even supposing they have computers or tablets.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Any new processes should be made easier for people to understand and again not always having to register/apply online.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council acknowledges that our customers expect access to council information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To enable this, the council will continue to look at ways to improve the website both as a tool to provide information on services, but also as a tool for customers to engage with the council, e.g. making payments online. The council will continue to endeavour to make it as easy as possible for customers to interact with services, improving access where required.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Train staff to deal with these changes, staff really dont have informed information on these	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	one payment system online, for everything in the council, schools included (cash should not be present in any transactions). staff training should be delivered by experienced members in the organisation, an industry body representative, or external service provider;	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	It is anticipated that new technology will provide a service that a number of customers have been requesting for some time, however it is acknowledged that it will not be suitable for all. Payment through direct debit will continue to be available for tenants and residents and payments are accepted at Post Offices which are available in most local communities and villages in West Lothian. Local communities can still interact on a one to one basis with council services in partnership centres and through the council's customer contact centre. The council will continue to support people to embrace new methods of payment through the Anti Poverty Strategy and financial inclusion work. Experience in other local authorities is that debt levels have not increased when new technology has been introduced.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	These need to be fit for purpose and easy to use.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Efficiencies will be very welcomed from staff and customer perspectives - making it more streamlined - pre-population of information and efficient timelines for decisions.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The road leading to my house has been under repair several times a year for the 10 years I've lived here. Damage has been caused to the road by poor quality work by Scottish Water - what is being done to ensure that they do the job properly and that roadworkers are actually doing enough to earn their money?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	In the current environment this is a big ask. There are far too many auditors, accountants, assessors within the organisation. Digitise these, remove WLAM, remove ADR's as these have little value to the workforce on the ground. Make these cumulative from monthly meetings or discussions. Improve recruitment and make this faster.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Does FMU need so many Finance Business Partners and accountants? Can the Council adopt a business plan approach as outlined in my earlier response.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	West Lothian Council has a centralised finance function which means support is provided with a minimum level of accountants. West Lothian has the lowest number of qualified accountants of any council in Scotland. The council does not have any finance business partners.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I think we need to be careful that the outcomes we want to see are not diluted by mis aligned change in processes. We have a very good benchmark on financial planning at present and we should only change if these service changes ensure the same robust outcomes we currently have.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If you could someone quicken the processes that would be ideal. For example, if a couple would not have to wait 8 weeks till they get a Child benefit decision to have an acknowledgment that they had a baby that would be brilliant. Also, a tell us once type of service for changes in circumstances would be extremely beneficial so client would not have to call 5 different departments to report the same change.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. Most benefit is determined and administered by national government. Where applicable for council led benefit, the council will look to further streamline processes but data protection legislation prevents sharing of information with other bodies and for other purposes than the reason the data was originally collected.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Has the council considered Apply Once utilised by Highland Council?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Automation tools that are now available to us may help with the demand called out here. Automating aspects of the process may allow staff to deal with the demand more effectively while providing customers with a better experience	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Provided it does not slow down critical payments or delay cash flow to struggling local businesses.; ; I think there's also a key question around expenses for travel. subsistence and corporate events or meetings. These should all be second choice over virtual solutions. It's nonsense if people suggest face to face is more effective, other than in particular circumstances. That also applies to our elected officials.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has substantially reduced travel and increased use of virtual meetings. Further opportunities to expand this will be investigated.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	less money to those who need it most	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again I feel people should not have to make an appointment st the likes of a CIS office when sometimes it is just a simple question needing answered.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council will always seek to maintain or improve its standards and will keep a variety of contact options open for customers. Customers can meet staff face-to-face in various offices or partnership centres or by telephone through our customer service centre

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I believe the news articles were pretty widespread the last time the government tried to implement cost savings for Universal Credit. As long as the council has nothing to do with it then it will run fine.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Realignment. That word is popular, eh?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	...Do you mean more worked farmed out to dodgy 'service providers' with dubious links?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This involves no transfer of work or responsibilities to other providers.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Cut the (redacted) and his slush fund cronies down to a living wage, like the "applicable amount" they demand that we're allowed to earn.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. The pay award for 2022/23 was capped to provide lower paid staff with a larger pay rise than the senior managers of the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I'm not no Benefits	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The council need to sort my housing before I'll even consider offering my opinion. The council ignores me constantly and is costing me 2 houses to pay for. My next step is to take my housing situation to all media outlets.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	eh?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	We need urgent help!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	grandparents will struggle to use them	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. Through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ndhd	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	It's not the councils job to do that so scratch it out and signpost to citizens advice	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again making savings where people need it most.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Have run out of money on capital works	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This proposal has no impact on capital funding.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Sometimes there is a lot of talk and more talk.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	KrE\$"%	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The aim of the consultation is to receive feedback from stakeholders on the general principles of proposed measures to balance the council's forecast budget gap.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Please do not remove support from the most vulnerable people in our local community.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Don't make it harder to access benefits for those in need.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No job cuts!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Good idea - also, stop duplicating advice functions provided by other bodies or advising on services not provided by the Council.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council does not duplicate advice functions. West Lothian has an advice network which coordinates all bodies to ensure this does not happen.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Let the DWP sort that out!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Does this cover processes for disabled individuals claiming universal credits? Work coaches ignore pip claims and assessments already done and are putting pressure on vulnerable individuals to seek employment in an environment where there are few to no suitable job opportunities for these individuals. This seems to be a waste of resources. Lifelong conditions should be accepted as such.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis. In some instances, data protection legislation prevents the sharing of information relating to benefit claims between different parties.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	With more people needing help ie universal credit if there is a lack of assistance what happens to these people ; It takes a lot of guts for people to ask for help	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	More financial support may be provided to deserving families instead of curtailing their resources	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	you never hear the phrase many hands make light work? the healthy long term unemployed should be helping council workers with all tasks, for their money	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Will this affect how long people have to wait for these vital services? Ok so long as the end user isn't affected. People on benefits are in dire need	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Universal credit is killing people!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Universal credit is absolute joke. Force people to work and not to claim benefits !	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not a saving, but waste of money. Around our area are plenty of jobs. For some is easier to stay on Universal, because it is a life they know. Stop support, make people go to work...	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Your preferred suppliers list are dearer than buying else where, universal credit is more money than getting a job and paying for childcare.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Absolute joke universal credit isn't worth the paper it's written on	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Processes need to be looked at some people on benefits are indeed cheating the system, same with some of those with blue badges and disability awards. I think set up traffic wardens to catch those parking in disabled spaces without a badge, (please make them enforceable) should be fined and that way you can also catch the ones running in and out of car when they claim they're on higher rate mobility! Catch those falsely claiming would also save money	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If they could streamline the benefit system as a whole and increase the capability to find fraudulent claimants that would be money well spent.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. The council robustly investigates and pursues all cases of fraud.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Would save a lot if Ben if it's were given to people who needed it and not just to people who don't want to work	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Find and stop the 'can work but refuse to work' and you'll make massive savings	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Has Universal Credit not been mucked about with enough? Why can we not find a working system for Universal Credit and stick to it, rather than having people jumping through constant hoops.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. Universal Credit is decided by the UK Government.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	With the council cuts proposed the Universal Credit Service will need more funding not less.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Cut the pay that Councillors and those employed higher up in Education. Education Officers and above do not need the level of pay they are receiving.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The Scottish Government determine the basic pay of councillors in Scotland and this cannot be varied by individual councils. The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007 set out the framework for paying a salary to councillors.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The cost of living has increased and UC, salaries haven't. Essentially to increase these.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. The same cost of living crisis pressures faced by individuals and families also impact on the council. The unavoidable impact of increasing costs for the council means that the council needs to identify savings or generate additional income as the council must have a balanced budget by law.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Make Universal Credit easier when applying for it and that there is support when needed.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. However the Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support individuals access benefits.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	It is important that people in need are supported through these schemes. Overheads can be greatly minimised by improving the qualification process to make sure only those entitled are receiving such facilities. I'm sure this is already been addressed or being addressed before you look into reducing cost by other means.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. Qualification for benefits is determined by the UK and Scottish governments. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I blame ***** (redacted)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	UC processes are a nightmare, need investment to sort!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Ok, also reduce the amount paid in Universal credit might help people look for work. this builds the economy and the average person will be better off as they will pay less tax based on fewer people on benefits.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	should be easier to apply for universal credit i have had loads of trouble, left for weeks without money	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Universal credit and the application process is determined by national government. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to help support individuals with their applications.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The whole benefit system needs a serious overhaul	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	i am a pensioner and because i have extra pensions other than the state pension i get penalised to paying 65% rent and 20% council tax as i,m deemed to have too much[excess] income...i don,t mind paying some rent/council tax but pensioners who have their own home only pay council tax.this is i believe very unfair...one pension a receive monthly is a mineworkers pension.yet this is regarded as excess income...west lothian was once a thriving mining community and miners contributed a lot...how can an ex/retired miner have their pension regarded as excess and not get much use of it?...i would like to see a change in the percentages similar to this so that pensioners who have so called excess income can benefit from their own paid into pensions....change to 25% for rent and 35% for council tax and that would give a return of 25% back to pensioners and a little more towards council tax.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments, including the thresholds for entitlement. The council has the Feeling the Pinch Fund which is available to help those who are just above benefit thresholds. The Anti-Poverty Service can help those who may be struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	All benefits should be reviewed	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I fear that moving everyone onto universal credits will cause the majority of people to suffer that are already struggling to survive with all the rising costs.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Too many people tell universal credit that they need help so that universal credit pays them although quite a lot of these people could actually work, therefor the process to get uncredited should be changed which would save a lot of money that goes to people who could actually work.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not on benefits currently but have had previous experience of claiming unemployment benefit and frankly it is a total riot to the extent I have not claimed it when I was probably due itgo figure I would rather starve than go through the humiliation of trying to prove I am not cheating the system as MPs claim £300 a day for rocking up at HoC	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	People on universal credit need to be encouraged back to work. People must be better off in work if possible.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Any one who can work but is classed as uneconomic should be encouraged to seek work as opposed to a benefit. Any benefits for working people can then be accessed once they have a job.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Lovely words, no actual action plan.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I would like to see a fuller description of what this mean. Applying for benefits, housing, services etc is so complicated using IT that often the voluntary sector has to step in the support people to do this. There needs to be people to talk to people who might not be able to access services online.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council. The Anti-Poverty Service remains available to support those struggling with the cost of living crisis.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I am not sure what this really means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	If you want people's opinions on things, please be clearer about your plans. This is far too vague to form an opinion!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Everywhere you are mentioning "re-aligned to match" something. But what are these parameters? There is not enough information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	More detail required as to what this means	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not sure what these efficiencies are, its not clear.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No idea what you mean by this	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This doesn't make sense and sounds similar to the first two proposals.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	This statement is vague and more detail would be helpful.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not sure what is being proposed here to be able to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not sure what is being proposed here to be able to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Insufficient detail to be able to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I don't understand what this cut is	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Again, hard to comment when clear details not given and someone must know the details to make the "estimated savings"!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Once again I am not sure what this means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to what this would involve or how it would affect individuals, services within the Council.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Not enough information to comment on.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	What does this actually mean? If there is a budget which can "make efficiencies in the administration of" "financial processes" then why don't you just do it? How can you change universal credit processes, UC isn't devolved to local authorities? If there is spare budget lying about and it can be aligned to match the actual spend then just get on with it....why ask the public as the wording doesn't make sense and surely isn't required for any governance process (especially giving the recognised arrangements by the auditors)	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This will have no impact on benefits which are not funded or determined by the council.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	dont really know what this mean	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	Very difficult to comment without further detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	No idea what you are planning here as it is too confusing what you are saying.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	See my answer to 1AIt is disingenious to ask people to comment on such a broad proposal with far too little detail for anyone to give an opinion on - it constitutes tick box consultation. It is difficult to argue with the broad principle outlined but it very much depends on how it impacts on people - reducing staff can often mean that the only method of communication is online and in many organisations this causes much greater inefficiency/no help at all for the customer/client. It is difficult to argue with the broad principle outlined but it very much depends on how it impacts on people - reducing staff can often mean that the only method of communication is online and in many organisations this causes much greater inefficiency/no help at all for the customer/client.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	How what where when. No substance to this statement	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels. Realignment of budgets can be implemented immediately.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1J Technical Financial Savings	While I recognize that savings need to be made by you (The Council need to be more specific on detailing their proposals.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Technical financial savings is focused on ensuring best value in relation to fixed financial costs. This will not impact on support provided to individuals or staffing levels.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree, WLL needs to be accountable as an arm's length business model. During lockdown periods there were still ventilation systems, heating and lights left on at Armadale pool which seems an unacceptable waste of public funds.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would agree with this statement and would agree that if savings can be made in this area that this should be initiated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree with this proposal. Strong leadership will be required from EMT to ensure that the directors of, and management team at, West Lothian Leisure will engage meaningfully in assessments of how services at West Lothian Leisure can be amended so West Lothian Leisure is able to cope with the removal over time of core funding from the council. If the directors of, and management team at, West Lothian Leisure do not come up with sufficient proposals to allow this to happen, the council should consider alternative arrangements for West Lothian Leisure to ensure that the council's core funding can be removed eg external corporate manager appointed, selling West Lothian Leisure.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Offering of services to public may improve oversight and engage people in more access to less commonly used services. Charitable events may help improve revenues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Future service delivery would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	good because spending Tons on a few football pitches in east calder was fucking retarded, and you need to stop making people think that a job in sports is a good thing, because a future eco society doesnt need those type of people doing stupid shit jobs we need grafters with practical skills (if its not a job nasa would send on an off world colony mission we dont need twats doing it here)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There are far too many facilities for such a small county.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a good idea, agencies such as WL Leisure should be encouraged to be self sufficient.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure should be self funding if not a specific council service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Stop funding private groups when groups use council facilities charges should be at a commercial rate is funds are collected by the group however small amount, CDT's should stop being funded and made pay their own way	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as self-funding does not increase costs to users to the point where it becomes unaffordable for those who need it most - for health (both physical and mental) reasons.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	These points would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This depends. If WLL can operate as a stand alone and is profitable this is ok. If it leads to reduced facilities it could be short sighted and lead to more ill health and reduced opportunities for young people which will have a knock on effect to petty crime levels.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agreed. WLL requires to operate self sustaining	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Absolutely they need to be more competitive in a massive gym offering across the local authority	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Almost all other councils across Scotland appear to run their leisure model better than West Lothian.; Exite seem to waste money and mismanage all those facilities given to them, and on top of the vast amount given to them by the council each year they continue to gouge the fee paying public. ; Stop ALL public funding and allow them to compete shoulder to shoulder with all the other leisure facilities in West Lothian. ; The comedic mismanagement of communities health and wellbeing needs to stop now	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree with this being largely self funded.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure in West Lothian is a waste of time, pools are shut half the time for swim classes or galas especially in whitburn	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	My understanding that community support by West Lothian Leisure is already pitiful.; Certainly West Lothian Leisure's business model needs reviewing 🤔	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a good idea, these facilities seem to be over staffed, by lazy staff joking around when I attend. They should be focusing like PT do and working with their customers. You pay your membership and they just don't care. I think this is why the PT are doing so well and they are not. Really there is no reason this couldn't be successful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It is a massive shame, but I guess not essential at this moment of crisis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree with this proposal. The West Lothian Leisure operating model is outdated with far too much provision of swimming pools. It is up to West Lothian Leisure to provide a sustainable business model going forward that is not subsidised by Council Tax payers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is reasonable, given the financial challenges faced by the Council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Great doing well 🙌	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Fair enough but to lose faculties would be daft. People need places to go to support their health and well-being and not all can afford bannantynes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree - the council has invested a lot of money in West Lothian Leisure whilst resources are tight. The council cannot continue to subsidise them when budgets for core services are being cut	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I imagine this will lead to higher prices which is a shame, not least as it will have a disproportionate effect on the poorest. I wonder about the knock on impacts on health services if access to fitness facilities is reduced for some. But I can see that compared to other priorities this is an obvious place to make savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Looks good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yes this is much needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not keen on this but I appreciate that if it is a choice between supporting schools or children's services or maintaining this funding, then helping West Lothian Leisure towards a viable and sustainable self-funded model may be necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This seems reasonable if WLL are able to remain open without it, again this could impact the most vulnerable and young in the community who may not be able to access the services elsewhere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree wholeheartedly with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No problem with that. Too expensive anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Fitness should be an individual choice and as such not funded with the exception of free swimming for kids as this is a vital component in wellbeing of children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Should West Lothian leisure be able to self fund and provide accessible, affordable activities, then perhaps there would be mileage in the suggestion.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This seems a reasonable suggestion	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this service currently work at arms-length? Again, the provision of this service for adults should be self-funding, but support may be required to support this for children and those in need of support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This partnership is very poor. I have worked personally within this partnership and the number of staff who do not respond, who are unavailable, who are unable to support a query is huge. There seems to be layers and layers of staff who have limited responsibilities. This surely can be flattened in organisation, streamlined and managed much more efficiently using technology and better administration methods.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	At least one good idea as it has charitable status anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Personally would affect me if prices were to rise excessively. Understand some pricing would still increase if council core funding was to continue, but this would not be as much if it were self funding	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I feel West Lothian leisure already of a very high cost compared to several other councils. However, I understand the need to reduce this. It will however further limit peoples ability to use the services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Possible saving here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as this didn't mean a reduction on leisure facilities available at a reasonable price to all people. Leisure facilities are needed to help mental health and wellbeing, as well as physical wellbeing. Two areas which are much needed in society these days.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	In these desperate times it will be necessary to charge people a set fee to use West Lothian's Leisure facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure activities are a choice and should be self funded. There are more areas where funding is more needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Xcite is a good service, but I can see inefficiencies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It is important to use finances and resources effectively within the Council, areas such as education, social work etc are far better placed for those than WLL, it is still an important service but it does have the ability to self fund from memberships and various club facility bookings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This sounds a good way to save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agreed. These services should be self-funding, as those who use them should pay and not be subsidised by those who do not.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is currently a high quality service. It significantly undercuts commercial offers, however it would not be unreasonable to move to a self-funding model.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree with this as West Lothian Leisure charge memberships to all users and charge non members for services so in effect this is a for profit business.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	that sounds like a good idea especially as there are now affordable gyms within the west lothian areas - might be more that your money supports anything that gets people outside and exercising	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree. This should be paid for by the users.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removing the leisure facilities from direct control of the council for funding/tax/costs efficiencies are understandable but removing all core funding from areas of our community which suffer from deprivation will cause further reduction in facilities for this well under resourced group within the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	By closing school facilities outwith school hours we would make efficiencies on utilities/ FMA staff etc. This would also inject funding towards West Lothian Leisure where traffic would be re directed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Making West Lothian Leisure a self-funding company is a good idea in principal provided that the cost id not then passed on to customers. WLL is the most affordable and accessible leisure facility membership and it may be the most vulnerable who are then affected by this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There is too much competition and choice in the leisure sector now to justify continued funding to one company.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sadly I would have to agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree that we should not be funding these types of organisations. If there are services we want to provide we should bring them back in house as it may actually safe money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure does provide excellent services to the community and I hope that it can maintain this without council support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure should in my opinion be as self sufficient as possible, there is far to much reliance on public money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Support this. Leisure is luxury during such difficult times...but when things financially improve services should be supported again	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Maybe don't spend so much on improving xcite sites and focus on learning and essential services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I fear this will lead to an increase in swimming lesson fees and so fewer families will send their kids for swimming lessons. A lesson per week at school is unlikely to be enough to save kids from drowning as we have seen in recent years. Risky. How about reduce core funding to WL leisure but protect key things like swimming lessons	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agreed, the Council should not be subsidising West Lothian Leisure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	agreed; the council should be focussing on maintaining open public spaces for resident recreational use	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Great as an adult that works 9 to 5 I can't use my local pool now due to school kids and public swimming isn't available on the weekends. I can only hope being self funded lets them operate as a business and not a creche.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree that school should not support West Lothian leisure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as it does not impact the safety or security of facilities and that these are maintained to high standards and suitably qualified persons are employed within and managing these facilities then agreed. Should be monitored to ensure the facilities are accessible to all and facilities do not become excessively costly to use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree with this approach, why should non-essential leisure be subsidised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This seems fair in principle, are buildings council owned if so i would still like to see preferential rates offered to West Lothian Leisure as active lives mean healthier lives.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree although I suggest keeping any subsidies to children's activities..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	no concerns, though thought should be given to the families who use Excite, will have low incomes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If people wish to attend leisure facilities then they really need to pay for it. However we must remember the more vulnerable people who are unable to use facilities due to the cost.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	let WLL close the facilities that don't pay for themselves. They can't be kept open for a small number of people at the expense of services for the many	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree, but all pupils must be taught to swim which should be funded by the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sounds long overdue	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	All funding to West Lothian Leisure should be withdrawn.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No reason they can't be self funded	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agreed, businesses must learn to pay their way.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree this should be self funding	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I am happy if I have to pay extra for use of leisure services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure needs to offer more services to users and look at the changing need and demand and must stand alone as a separate business.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Definitely needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sensible proposal as long as any increase in participation fees are not above inflation	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agreed. If West Lothian Leisure can't operate without council subsidies then they need to start closing premises. There is plenty of private sector sports and leisure facilities available as an alternative.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yes and no, what about the learn to swim and kids coaching, how would this work if the council just remove the funding, can these facilities stay open, we can find alternative pools but can all parents? There's other gyms around West Lothian so I expect people just move to them, I doubt many Xcite venues would survive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to determine a sustainable business model.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sadly, I think many people will already be cancelling their memberships for West Lothian Leisure. If you have a choice between heating and eating, things like this are the first to go. It's such a shame but given the savings you have to make I would say yes to this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	While I enjoy these facilities, I completely agree that they could review the business model on these facilities. Some of the facilities are great, there are more and more PT trainer and gyms opening all the time some of which are more expensive to use than West Lothian Leisure. More professionally trained staff rather than, hourly paid staff, who don't have any incentive to help people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian leisure should be run as a business. It's ridiculous that a facilities of that kind are not generating income effectively.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	A full review of the available leisure facilities, venue to venue P&L against operating costs should be reviewed to allow a detailed understanding of the model. As a regular user of west lothian leisure facilities I don't believe the facilities are managed in line with customer uptake. I am in favour of west lothian leisure being largely self funded, but the operational decisions don't seem to align with the requirements of the users, particularly children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Swimming is a basic life skill for all and I would be concerned without the council's support centres would struggle to maintain current opening hours. I would rather pay a little more for swimming than lose these facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Think WLL should not continue to be part of the service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would hate to see xcite fold, so really good it is a sustainable model. Surely with the new membership fees etc it must help pay for itself.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It's already hugely expensive and out-of-reach for many of the people who would benefit from it. So what difference does it make? So-called community high schools where poorer pupils are unable to use the facilities (their facilities) because they are rented out to private clubs every night.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I completely agree, the business needs to stand on its own feet.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a priority however we are in a mess and if savings are needed, then so be it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Making it much more difficult for so many to access these services, if that is the intention then ok.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure seems to have been able to make significant investment in the provision of facilities, making them highly desirable by comparison to other local authorities, which is a good thing. However, the cost to the customer for these services does seem very competitive and there is perhaps opportunity to pass more of this cost on to the customer. However, what we must do is ensure that those people who may otherwise not access these services do have some means of support to enable them to continue to access them at a reasonable price point (perhaps means tested membership of some order)... that doctors can continue to prescribe wellbeing services and that individuals can continue to run their business cost effectively from these leisure premises. Any new model must still be over seen by the authority to ensure the quality of service provided is still of a high standard and that it is inclusive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	In my view, there is substantial overprovision of leisure facilities particularly swimming pools and community facilities in West Lothian. Given the level of savings required and other statutory priorities the council must provide, this will be an important areas to work closely with West Lothian Leisure to rationalise leisure facilities in West Lothian while still providing a good level of service provision from a reduced number of quality facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	ok - maybe close some of the venues that aren't used. Councilors need to allow WLL to make their decisions and not interfere to save themselves a few votes. It's time to look at usage figures and make sensible decisions on what is required. Clearly not all venues should remain open	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as services aren't affected, this could be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agreed. Persons who are not on welfare benefits have always had to pay for this anyway, this makes things fairer	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a fair proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Well it will sink or swim	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I support this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Happy with that	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	excellent idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLL should be self-funded	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Again, as long as users aren't penalised, this could be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Fair enough	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This seems a reasonable suggestion	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	ok, agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would agree with this fully	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yes agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yes do it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree, West Lothian Leisure should be self-sufficient	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Happy with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This saving will make a big difference to the budget already agreed upon.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as services aren't affected, this could be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sounds like it could be okay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Great way forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian xcite should be self sufficient. leisure activites are important for the mental and physical health of our community however this cannot be subsidised by the council. ; ; However, there is an exception to the rule where the council should support specific groups to use the xcite services/facilities for example children in care to access what their peers would do with their families etc.; ; Where a group requires it to improve physical or mental health (people with disabilities and mental health issues) this is something NHS should support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Only if no cut in services provided	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree - reduce their funding and let them compete with the private sector which offers a much better service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This reduction is a correct step.; I assume WLL pays a commercial rent for facilities under their control. How much?; Will the council continue to fund WLL capital projects - new sports centres. How do such projects impact on council funds. What then is the net benefit to the tax payer. Is it £750k?; Swimming pools - how many do we have? Four?; Given the energy costs what now is the cost per user of a swimming pool. Must be over £10 a visit?; Do we really have to subsidise getting wet to that extent.; It would be cheaper to run a minibus to the 1/2 that should remain. Or fund use of private pools; Has anyone in the council got the costs for a child to take up competitive swimming. It is seriously prohibitive. Club membership governing body affiliation weekly fees.; Long been the case swimming pools and ice rinks cant make money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This sounds reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Hopefully West Lothian Leisure can sustain this as it would be a massive loss to all areas of the community	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think the leisure clubs could charge more for their services in order to become more self funded.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Seems reasonable although it suggests that the customers will be expected to pay more to cover the funding gap.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This makes sense. There are many gyms in West Lothian that cover a range of budgets. There is little need for a council funded one that still has a membership fee.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Make sure they are a stand alone organisation and don't use council funds for a fallback	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The service offered by West Lothian Leisure needs improving or cut from public funding.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Far too many facilities- especially swimming pools. These need to be rationalised. There are two pools in each of our major towns. Running costs must be astronomical.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree that West Lothian Leisure should be self-sufficient. Communities have the choice either to utilise the WLL facilities or alternative private sector provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yes I would agree that this would be of benefit.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yes!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree to this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	agreed though assist them to oversee as these services will be essential.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	i think that leisure facility such as excite is a total waste of council resources cost in janitorial cleaning school electricity etc this would be well spent more in school resources	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree that west Lothian leisure should become largely self funded.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Think Lothian Leisure should be self efficient and be responsible for their own incomeBrin	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	i think they should withdraw this service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	the council should let the leisure become self sufficient	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	withdraw	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as they had continued access to reviewing their business model to assist with being self sufficient to help people have a healthy well being	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Withdraw	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	if the financial support is removed so should the engagement from council. the council should have no input in the business model, it will then be completely self funded and council should have no say.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Could be worse, I guess.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree - West Lothian Leisure is well used by locals of all ages and provides great physical and mental health benefits to the local population.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure is a separate entity and should not receive fund to support it from West Lothian Council as it was split from WLC for a reason	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Presume this means prices will increase at WLL but I guess if you have to make savings, this is OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would be the first thing to happen. This service is not available for all so should not be council funded. There used to be free swimming for kids etc but this was all taken away, if there is no benefit then all funding should be removed and it should be privatised	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Absolutely great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Assuming this includes sports facilities like swimming pools (e.g. Xcite). Given that overweight is already a large problem, people will reduce spent on this first when they need to save money. Reducing funding here may aggravate that and could result in an even worse health situation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure has the facilities to become a stand-alone entity and this is something which should be explored by the Council. I feel the saving identified could be better used to meet core Council priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this is a tough call but	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree although we have fabulous sports facilities in the area and I'd want to protect the levels we have	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Why is this not a separate entity managed as such. It's certainly not cheap to use	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I understand the service could become self funded. This will be understood I expect by those members of the public that can afford to pay for their leisure activities. They might already engage with other privately run sport and leisure clubs. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree. Unfortunately, these are not essential services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure charges commercial rates for gym memberships, etc. If they cannot function at a zero cost (or even providing a profit to the council) then the service should close as uneconomical.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Another big save, we need to use or lose	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	close venues that aren't used well	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The figure indicated as being saved seems relatively small in comparison to the service turnover and although it is regrettable that we continue to move in a politically rightward direction, it seems acceptable. At the same time, obesity and all tat comes with it is a major issue in Scotland and this looks likely to reduce the exercise people take. So any saving may well end up at the door of the NHS.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree that we have to re prioritise the funding away from leisure which might mean reducing the number of swimming pools but think we should try to keep at least one decent swimming pool (not leisure pool) in each area even if we have to charge to go there	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a private company earning money from patrons so funding should be cut as people can pay if they want to this is not an essential.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree with a reduction in core funding for WLL but would like to see other council services working much more closely with the leisure providers. There doesn't seem to be a need for all of the facilities to be maintained and I think that time would be well spent reviewing these and working to make those most beneficial to the communities of West Lothian as good as they can be. Reduce the portfolio and do what they do really well rather than trying to patch up certain facilities that are no longer fit for purpose. There needs to be a clearer direction from the council in what they want WLL to provide with better links to the LOIP and Public Health Scotland Outcomes. At present with it being an ALEO it does seem to operate in somewhat of a silo, that's not to say there aren't excellent examples of partnership working but it doesn't seem to be wholesale. They could limit the number of facilities and earmark certain ones for specific things for example have a place specifically just for those who want to use a gym and do fitness classes, have a place that is more geared around wellness, health and well-being, have certain spaces for children's classes or community development sites.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Support. But the proposal does not specify what this would mean for service delivery. Are they closing swimming pools?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If you can support WLL to become self-funded without the need to increase their costs too drastically will be a winning solution - good luck !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sounds fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as they are capable of doing this. Leisure activities are key to mental health stability	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There is no reason that WLC should be funding West Lothian leisure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian leisure should be self funded, the fact that they have closed down the community high school; Pools & gyms to the public is a farce, the only decent pools to take a child to actually swim are either constantly closed for galas or filthy. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It should be self funded. Lots of other gyms in the area manage to operate. Why should they be any different. Excite are more expensive than some.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If West Lothian Leisure is self-sufficient, see no issues with reducing funding from WLC. Would this have an impact on the services offered by WLL?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree - unfortunately this is a nice to have and not a statutory service. If enough people cared enough about the services then they would use them enough to make it pay. WLL needs to become more commercially aware and operate accordingly without subsidy from the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Makes sense if no funding can't keep delivering things	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would hope that funding would be reduced incrementally to ensure West Lothian Leisure remains a viable business as it provides an important service to support health and well-being in local communities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This means privatising Excite, I assume? Seems reasonable to me!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLC should withdraw financial support to EXCITE.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I don't like this but it is probably a sensible suggestion given the circumstances	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If it can be self funded i think this is a fair proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Wll should be able to generate its own income, it's a shame Lowport is already closed so I would only support this if you can guarantee no more cuts to sports and leisure facilities in west Lothian, there are not enough good choices for our young people or adequate facilities for older generation to keep fit etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Ok as long as they can stand alone as important service for the communities they are in	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This should be done because not all the residents use these services and therefore they should not have to pay for something that they dont use	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	what does the money that goes to WLL provide.; gyms are a luxury and not essential; this could be a good idea; i dont have money for this so it doesnt really bother me	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Should already have been.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Should be self funded.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as it doesn't impact WLL opening and closing times and number of venues.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Hoping the facilities don't suffer as they are excellent at the moment, although Livingston swimming pool could be cleaner	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Good idea . Some time people taking benefit in the name of Student concision/ lower income . Need to review on regular basis other wise some people will take this benefit though they are not entitled after some period .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think as long as it does not affect people's support and mental well-being, depending on what the service provides .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Fully agree with West Lothian Leisure moving to a largely self funding model going forward.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Already too expensive and a service I ceased using when my child turned 5 and it became over £10 to go for a swim in a basic pool.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would support this, so long as WLL can continue to operate - it makes such a valuable contribution to the health and wellbeing of WL communities and individuals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I am a regular user of Xcite facilities and would be happy for these to become self supporting with the exception of kids swimming lessons which need to continue to be subsidised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	In tough times this seems like an appropriate change to make	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree and West Lothian leisure should review its core business and competitors	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Probably necessary given the financial constraints.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLL must survive as a commercial organisation, or fail. Taxpayers money should not prop it us. Commercial alternatives exist,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No funding!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure should be self funded with only core services receiving financial support for things like children's classes for fitness, swimming and for services for OAP's as long as this doesnt affect costs to end users. kids should be able to try a range of activities without it costing the earth. many families couldn't afford such enjoyment for their kids if the subsidy is taken away.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained, and opportunities to participate in sport at school will remain.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	this should have been a separate entity from day one	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure facilities are important however greater need for social care education etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will not make a huge difference to WLL as they are obviously mainly self-funding. I'm sure £750,000 is a very small part of their budget. I do assume that they will be handed the deeds to their buildings in order for them to manage their fabric and infrastructure efficiently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree this is a commercial enterprise so shouldn't be supported financially by the Council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Presumably xcite facilities would have to consolidate or offer reduced services or increased prices. If it goes to the open market I guess any gym chain could take on their premissis if they have better scale economies. Seems reasonable, but we need swimming pools up stay open one way or the other	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As a keen user of the gym facility this would affect me personally- However this seems like a very good idea -	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree that West Lothian Leisure should become largely self funded,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I agree with this proposal, WLC has given significant funding to WLL over the last 5 years, and as a charity they should be looking to maximise their funding through other avenues.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Supportive of the proposals. WL leisure also need to look at how they operate to make them more customer focused, a reduction on their funding may make them do this. Hard to get access to leisure when you work, no early gym / swimming sessions. No kids' classes other than swimming at locations other than Bathgate / Linlithgow. ; ; Organisation needs to consider a family membership options aswell. This will increase revenue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as this does not cause West Lothian Leisure to increase membership/pay as you go prices.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sad but understandable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Supportive of this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure is something we should be able to live without and try to be creative our own selves. IMHO no need for a leisure in a bad time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I do not approve of the removal of funding if it results in higher fees to use the facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Reasonable approach - if it is workable and WLL have the support needed to make it work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yes this should happen. West Lothian Leisure do not really support the priorities of West Lothian Council, they do not work in partnership with us effectively. During our recent summer hubs which were funded by Scottish Government to provide opportunities to our most deprived young people, WL Leisure did not give us access to facilities because they were using themselves and charging people a fortune for this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This sounds good - will likely be better	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Definitely Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Happy for them to be self sufficient provided this does not come back to the council in a future year and overall more would need to be paid.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This seems sensible if those who can afford to pay are required to do so. However provision should still be available for those, and in particular those children, who cannot	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a concern as staffing levels are at a minimum already is some establishments. I agree West Lothian Leisure should be self-funded , if it can be done in a financially viable manner.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I do not use the leisure services, but do not feel that the councils should subsidise those. ; ; In the Winchburgh article on sport and wellbeing, is there a dedicated wall for the 25 metres by the 25-metre swimming pool.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure is not running efficiently, so I would support any measures or reviews that will make the service work better for customers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We have all just come out of a pandemic which killed many people whose health may not have been the best. We should be investing in health and well-being to protect the NHS and make sure everyone has the opportunity, support and guidance to look after themselves in Scotland. We are a nation of unhealthy and overweight individuals unfortunately. I am a paying member of WLL and would not like to see any of the great services they deliver cut as I think this would be the case if funding is withdrawn? This would then put more pressure on the NHS surely, with a very negative impact to the community as a whole. Please be very careful with decisions around people's mental and physical health!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure is a credit to the area. Fantastic facilities and plenty of opportunities for children to get involved in sport. The short term saving of £750,000 would be unwise if it results in more costs further down the line. E.g. more extensive repairs to buildings which could have been avoided if maintenance had been upkept or disengagement by the population in sport leading to increased health inequalities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We should be continuing to invest in our leisure facilities across the council area so that all have access to health and fitness.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Concern leisure facilities will become too expensive for people to access at a time of cost of living stresses being detrimental to mental health,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Having no investment in WLL would risk the provision of this vital community service - for it to become completely self funding may end up excluding many of the community that need this service most	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I understand why but in pursuit of overall health this is concerning as provision for exercise as part of life is important.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Keep the funding with West Lothian leisure. Remove it and costs for families will spiral and less people being able to access.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this endanger an equitable provision for all thus risking short term gain for long term pain!? Shouldn't the health and wellbeing of our community come first?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Self-funding, I think West Lothian leisure will end up becoming a thing of the past, where only the affluent people will afford swimming and gym membership. With cuts in service, I wonder what my council tax actually funds.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this will lead to a reduction of the facilities available to the public.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unlikely that this one will be followed through on politically.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	end of leisure facilities for all - only those who can afford private gyms with pools will be able to use	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It's a saving but all it will do is mean increases for the public to pay to be a member etc and given where we are with cost of living etc - people will simply not be able to afford it and have to look for a cheaper place to go and there would be the chance that west lothian leisure could end up out of business too	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It is essential that opportunities for physical activity remain available in all parts of West Lothian	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will impact the poorest people and surely cause impact on health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not a good decision.... Obesity on increase... there should be free physical activity in evenings through centres youth clubs they charge 1.00 to access sport as a family we can afford paying 1.00 fee to youth club thanks to youth services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If this means those using facilities would have to pay more then in real terms this would see loss of services within communities and the wider knock on effect of that.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This could be detrimental to the wider community with the projects run from West Lothian Leisure and having to balance the books without the required funding from West Lothian Council to run such aspects. Failure to fund appropriately could see a reduction in services provided, as well as closures of some sites.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would inevitably lead to increase costs for the public and would in turn prevent many people accessing the leisure facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is definitely going to impact on activities offered, and will affect peoples health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Think this is not a good saving - people need places to stay fit and its good for mental health/general well being - takes pressure off other resources so cutting funding here is not good in my opinion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this would be a mistake, west lothian leisure could be expanded to help generate more revenue for the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There has already been a loss of leisure centres, e.g. Lowport outdoor education centre. Given the obesity crisis, and the strain this puts in other publicly funded institutions such as the NHS, it's important to provide services to support people to be physically active. If WL Leisure centres would be at risk due to these cuts I'd be against it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What would the impact of this be? If West Lothian leisure is not already self funded to the tune of £750,000 this seems unlikely that this could be met from increased memberships, so what other options would be available? Closing buildings? Yes there are other gyms and fitness organisations available in some parts of West Lothian but not all communities! It seems very sad if the council is going to stop supporting the health and well-being of its residents and place West Lothian Leisure at even more risk and competition from private profit making companies. We do not agree with this measure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We need to continue to support leisure and well being to tackle obesity and poor health otherwise we will add to the current NHS crisis through poor health	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a huge loss to the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No. This will lead to much higher costs for using leisure facilities, and costs are already high enough in my opinion. Please remove this idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	In a country where we've struggled for decades with increasing obesity and other physical heath issues related to lack of exercise; the answer to that is cutting funding aimed at promoting healthier lives through increasing physical activities? Really?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is such an important service for people across all areas of the community and I think funding should be maintained	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will likely see the deterioration of some sites and eventual closure. WLC have always been strong in providing Leisure Facilities, tying it into NHS funded fitness may support some centres.this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I guess that's WL Leisure closing down then.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	More cuts, so much for trying to create a healthier population.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure facilities at affordable prices are essential for physical and mental health. It cannot be available to those with the most money and disposable wealth	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Many users are likely to reduce their spend on leisure due to the cost of living crisis. If cutting council funding means WLL need to increase prices this will reduce access to the facilities for those on tight budgets. It may also lead to increased costs for other council services if e.g. young people stop going to the gym and sports clubs and as a result turn to vandalism or other negative activities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would this put up prices for members as they could not afford them in this climate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	By becoming self funded - charges will increase which will impact people using their facilities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean that sports facilities would no longer be supported by the council. Again all it seems to be is service after service being reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	So the low income families will access health and fitness facilities how exactly? How will our children learn to swim? Stupid idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will simply result in residents of West lothian less able to participate in physical activity and exercise and shift thr burden to thr already overstretched NHS. This may even have a direct impact on staff productivity within thr Council if they have less opportunity to exercise.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will lead to closures of some facilities and negative impacts on health of the communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The council has already dropped support for the arts (including drama and dance). Dropping funding for sport as well will massively impact lower income families as inevitably prices will need to go up to cover the difference. The council seems to hate poor people. Not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	That sounds like the closing of many leisure services will be inevitable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Some services such as swimming could become too expensive, these are core life skills	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	as a regular use i don't want any services i use to be impacted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	no building closures or reduction in hours is acceptable to me. in this physical and health emergency these services shouldn't be impacted if it affects customers directly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This does not sound like a good option for peoples mental health never mind physical	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Watch all WLC sports facilities close!!! This is a dreadful idea!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I'm surprised to hear funding would be removed to WLL, I am an active user of the facilities and I love it. I find the fact that subsidies are present, costs are cheaper in some venues which is really appropriate and necessary for opening up physical activity to people in areas of multiple deprivation, what is the plan going forwards for this?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	In the context of early intervention and prevention West Lothian Leisure provides and essential service in supporting the wellbeing of West Lothian residents in general and also specific priority groups (e.g. mental health/emotional wellbeing, older people, those with long term conditions, those living in poverty). If council investment is removed it will be these target groups which will inevitably be most adversely affected and other services (such as health or social care) will see a rsie in demand of which cost are inevitably higher. It would therefor make sense for this investment to remain or elements of this investment to be more clearly share with public sector partners (NHS and IJB).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Strongly disagree! West Lothian Leisure is massively needed in terms of health and improving both fitness and mental health which are both issues West Lothian currently has a large amount of residents needing support with. Things such as gyms need to have reduced prices but still be there. Without council help or funding places will not survive as buisnesses alone	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure facilities should be available for everyone, especially the people on the lowest incomes. These people may not have any other opportunities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Inevitably, this will mean it will be more costly for residents in West Lothian to use leisure facilities! It is also probable that there will be fewer leisure facilities. Have the wider public health implications of this proposal been considered?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not surprised to see this. Leisure centres with pools will close and the council are in a position to say it is not their fault. Learning to swim is a life skill and the council allowing the potential for this to be taken away is very short sighted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The services West Lothian leisure provide are extremely beneficial for mental health. If costs increase many service users may suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure should not be removed from core funding. It is an aspect of health and wellbeing that is important for children and employees.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	And here we have it - total disregard for health and well-being!! Sidestep services under WLL then pull the funding and it's gone. A disgrace.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Xcite is extremely important and a hub to communities. Funding should remain but xcite should.amd could.make.their own efficiencies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Horrendous, this will result in communities losing such resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Scotland has one of the worst morbidity and early mortality rates amongst the develop nations. Scotland also has the highest heart disease in Europe. Reducing funding for sports is like removing the hull of a boat to make it float better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Terrible decision particularly where Scotland wants to increase mental well-being	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure is a service which supports mental health. Cutting funding will increase mental health issues in West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Disaster for health and well-being of the community. Not defensible at all. Of course, since taking funding away, no need for vacuous aligning jargon.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure services in West Lothian will ultimately decline with this change which is depressing and will have bigger effects on people in terms of bith physical and mental health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure provide great opportunities for our community. Services provide need to be protected as far as possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There should be no cuts to these services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removal of funding is likely to negatively impact West Lothian Leisure and those who use the facilities ultimately. Keeping our people fit and healthy improves physical and mental health and is a critical resource. Would not support this approach.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I feel this is a bad idea. West lothian leisure offers a more affordable option for many families especially around children's activities such as learn to swim	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will lead to centres closing in the most deprived areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian must not go the way of other councils where the community lacks access to high quality leisure facilities. This is vital for improved health and well being to help reduce the strain on the NHS	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	You should be committed to the health of your residents. This is a despicable idea that will lead to closures of leisure facilities to the detriment of the physical and mental health of West Lothian residents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean West Lothian Leisure would have to close some of their buildings? Disagree if that's the case as the health and well-being of residents is vital and these facilities offer by far the best selection of classes around. Outside of Livingston communities might be left with no leisure facilities. Livingston on the other hand is swamped with private facilities but none that offer the variety of what West Lothian Leisure do. Disagree.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This feels short sighted as this will lead to increased costs in terms of the gym membership etc so people more likely to become ill and thus need extra care as they get older.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will result in closures and a loss of services to communities that need them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	More money should go into leisure facilities as kids needs things to occupy themselves and keep active.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would say the provision of leisure facilities should be a priority. This seems a relatively small saving, but could lead surely to closures and lack of facilities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This sounds like our social fabric is being stripped away. Same council tax, less and less social services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would be a shame for the local community - especially young people whose family's will not be able to afford the membership if it becomes fully private.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not a good idea, people need these services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not a good idea, people need these services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	very important to keep	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No. Leisure centres provide cheap access to improve health and fitness, this is very important given the levels of obesity and other health issues in our community. Better health means less drain on the health service and is a net gain even just in money terms, this is very short sighted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Once again, this will no doubt have the biggest effect on poorer households, increasing the poverty gap. If it becomes self funded it means prices will be higher and many families will not be able to access facilities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure is a critical service and resource, offering direct health and social benefits for all ages. I do not support putting its financial security at risk. £750,000 seems a small investment from the council, considering the scale of the benefits it brings to residents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this funding needs to be kept in place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The specialist and providers of health and wellbeing opportunities should be fully supported by WLC, as it will be totally counterproductive and short sighted to cut funding that will only increase both mental health and obesity levels and put more strain on local NHS services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I am a long-term user of West Lothian Leisure and have a disability. I have found the service extremely important in maintaining my mental wellbeing and couldn't imagine the loss of this vital service. I therefore feel that the council needs to continue to fund West Lothian leisure to ensure that it doesn't close for the many people who make use of the many facilities that are on offer for all ages.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure have some of the best facilities in the area and are all very affordable. Reducing funding will squeeze members with higher membership fees -- it's a balancing act. I think these facilities are vital to people of all ages and wouldn't want the quality, service or affordability of the services to be impacted	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will reduce opportunity for less wealthy families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Core funds for leisure services should continue to be in place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will lead to higher costs for customers ultimately and would not align with some of the council's core values. It will create other problems in the long run, through reduced physical activity	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will negatively impact the service they provide and have a negative impact on people's health and life expectancy	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Absolutely disgusting stopping funding to the leisure industry the council are rehousing West Lothian but by bit and for somewhere that was considered the new town it's becoming derelict with nothing for anyone to do in the town	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This seems like a one-way journey to closure. Given rising obesity levels in children, shouldn't the council be investing in leisure services, not withdrawing from them?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will have a massive impact on the wellbeing and mental health of the people who use West Lothian Leisure facilities. It will take away their independence and those who can't afford self funding may suffer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLL cannot afford to do this and many, many families and individuals would suffer. There is every chance we could lose WLL as a business should this happen and people require it for their MENTAL and PHYSICAL health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Do not support this as I believe this will see the demise of many of West Lothian's leisure facilities. This area needs more funding, not less. These facilities are vital for our children and young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I feel West Lothian Leisure is an asset to the local area and would hate to see this disappear due to funding cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would be concerning to me given it would potentially mean an increase in prices to access leisure facilities at a time when everyone is being totally stretched financially. This could limit middle income families in being able to afford to use keep fit facilities and this would impact on peoples physical and mental health. This could be a big loss to many people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would not support this measure, as this would lead to higher pricing of the West Lothian Leisure and thus prevent access to alot of families who use these facilities on a regular basis. Both my children's excellent memberships provide them with a wide range of activities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This could impact on mental health issues, and parents ability to cope?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No changes are required	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would not support this. Leisure facilities are vital for areas in West Lothian, particularly the more deprived.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As fitness and wellbeing is becoming more important this would be counterproductive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	For the sum of £750k this should be re-thought.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will inevitably lead to the closure of leisure facilities in the area. They provide an important service in our towns for locals to meet and participate in healthy choices trough sport and recreation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Stripping funding during a cost of living crisis from leisure facilities will result in thousands not being able to enjoy any leisure as the costs of a self funded model would need to be passed onto users. How does this align to social and health benefits the council is stated to aim to provide?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Many people adults and children alike would suffer if this was to happen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this is a poor choice to save £750K	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Do not agree. The health and wellbeing provided by West Lothian Leisure, if vital and needs to remain.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would have a horrendous effect on health and well-being, especially in children and senior citizens.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is, I believe, a dangerous way forward. Access to leisure facilities is a key factor in maintaining or indeed improving the health and wellbeing of the local community. Denying access, through higher costs, is not conducive to promoting wellbeing. These are, I acknowledge, tough financial times, not only for the council, but for families whose disposable income is being squeezed in so many other ways.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Council should give money for things like this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Better to keep giving them money	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Concerned that this will also greatly impact the community and opportunities available to young people if clubs/organisations are priced out of using the facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Physical activity plays a core part in boosting health quality and subsequently reducing the burden on health and social care services. Evidence indicates that preventative measures like east affordable access to health and fitness improves population health quality and reduce costs overall. This is a poorly thought out proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This has been tried before and will result in a loss of will sites. While it's not the council's job to shore up the company I would not like to see these services reduced any further. Opening times of pools are currently dreadful for public swimming	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Do not agree at all this is the life blood of our community and how we all keep health reducing social and health care no cut should be made on funding	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removing this funding will reduce access for vital health and well-being services for low incomes. Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	funding is important for West Lothian Leisure - I am unable to see how places like Xcite can stay open without the necessary funding	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sport and exercise are core to healthy living. Removing funding to WL Leisure will inevitably mean increased code to the user, which will affect those of lower incomes the most, many of whom have the poorest health outcomes already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This should be reconsidered otherwise prices go up for "private" gyms etc and so fewer people can afford it. Better to increase income by having lots of people paying a small amount and support from WLC is the way to support it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I understand the Council has to save money somewhere but West Lothian Leisure is not all about gyms and exercise, patients from hospital are referred as part of their progression in rehabilitation after physio. I feel West Lothian Leisure would still have to have some funding from the Council to continue doing what they do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	vital, keep it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Think this will have a detrimental effect on the health and well-being of a large portion of West Lothian population WL leisure currently offers good value for money because it is subsidised through the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	More people would suffer if this went ahead. don't agree.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this would be a bad idea and WLL should still be part funded by aWLC as this benefits the health and well-being of children and young people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	So cut funding to a facility that provides so much in terms of peoples health and well being? What a shambles you lot are.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to determine a sustainable business model.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	£750,000 saving for this CORE community facility. WL doesn't have an abundance of fitness and leisure opportunities like many regions across the UK. To cut back is lunacy- surely I don't need to highlight the long term health impact and associated costs. The swimming pools have already reduced hours for clubs since covid. Whomever suggested this in our 'agile thinking' council needs to seriously reconsider.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I hope this doesn't make WLL unsustainable - leisure services are key if we want to tackle an increasing mental and physical health crisis	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to determine a sustainable business model.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This of course will have a negative impact and with the cost of living crisis there is a real risk that the service has to withdraw some of the opportunities which allow people to maintain a positive mental health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Given the importance of both physical and mental fitness especially post COVID it would seem ridiculous to cut funding in this area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian leisure should continue to be supported it is a vital part of our community and should remain accessible and affordable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Do not support as leisure facilities already cut and vital part of communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure is brilliant and continues to be so after Covid. Not a good idea to remove funding. Look what happened to Low Port Centre in Linlithgow.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think given the relatively small saving- compared to other things - this would be really sad, if it means WLL would fold or seriously raise prices - it is the only way many families in wl can afford swimming lessons etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Reduction in assistance will no doubt lead to higher prices again. Affecting the poorest in our communities and disadvantaging these groups in their health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Again hit the poorest the most.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It would be really sad to hear that this facility will be removed, as I'm sure the community of West Lothian would still want the council to continue to fund this facility.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure activities should be funded and made affordable for all families and swimming should be free as it provides a vital skill.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would be missed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Reduced price swimming for under 5s must not be affected	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Ridiculous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unfair	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is ridiculous. West Lothian council need to continue to support sport and leisure and encourage all communities to support their local services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will impact across all communities better to have more members than fewer so to expect these to be self sufficient ignores the wider part these play in our communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Disappointing to read this as this is a life line for peoples mental and physical health. Doctors recognise this by the number of referrals made. This will cause price increases and potentially venues to close.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I do not support this. Active living is essential for the health of West Lothian citizens.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removing funding from a vital community service would potentially put the business in danger. Many rely on this service to support their mental and physical health and wellbeing and without could have consequences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removing funding to keep the population healthy is shocking.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will have a negative effect on people's mental health and we'll being. Vulnerable people with already reduced income will not be able to pay "private" prices for swimming, keep fit, etc which will not help their physical or mental health. Elderly people will suffer from this lack of funding too as many will not have the income to pay full price to enjoy the facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Lesiure offers a range of fantastic opportunities for the young people of West lothian. Any cuts to the support from WLC will have a negative impact on this at a time when Health and Wellbeing is at the forefront of policies.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Very short sighted. It'll end up costing more to correct health problems when the leisure centres close or people can't afford the increased fees .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Disgusting. Another service privatised.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	You will just end up having to pay for the results of this further down the line. It's not cost effective. Look at the bigger picture!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It was previously documented West Lothian Leisure received the smallest amount of funding as part of the management fee out of all the leisure providers in Scotland so I fail to see how West Lothian Council propose to reduce the small contribution that is already inadequate to protect these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WEST LOTHIAN LEISURE IS FOR THE COMMUNITY YOU SHOULD CONTINUE THE SUPPORT. THE MONEY WOULD BE WASTED ELSEWHERE ANYWAY.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Westlothian leisure could not do without the help of the council so please keep supporting them. so please keep supporting this company they give a great service to the customers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Places that encourage people to get/keep fit should not be part of the councils savings plan	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a key for the community to have affordable sport and leisure activities to the community of west lothian and also encouraging more people to be active and enjoy sport and fitness acitivites.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removal of this funding would put the Charity in a precarious position. They support certain elements and arms of the council through previous (and new agreements) but have to keep costs low to service community clubs etc. Without the council support these prices would rise to align closer with neighbouring counties and bring costs closer to the Sport Scotland average. The knock-on effect would see Community Clubs and similar folding as they can no longer afford let prices and would reduce the number of people in the community carrying out regular exercise and developing social relationships. The current management fee is already the lowest in Scotland.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would be concerned that this will damage the opportunities for the most vulnerable in society to access sport and leisure. Real investment is needed in these services e.g. often swimming lessons are massively over subscribed but more classes aren't put on so children in particular miss out. I would worry that WLL withdrawal from WLL would see them tightening their belts and there would be less opportunities for sport and leisure for young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removing funding for WWL will negatively impact communities throughout West Lothian. Providing safe, clean facilities, where members of the community of all ages, level of fitness and medical/disabled status are welcomed and supported on their fitness journey is essential. Given the global pandemic and the fact that poor health was a contributing factor to mortality rates, WLL should be kept at the forefront of helping people maintain and increase fitness. Removing funding would devastate the citizens of West Lothians mental and physical wellbeing. WLL is also a large employer and this would no doubt impact jobs as well. I am vehemently against the proposal to remove funding from this essential service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Health and fitness is linked to poverty and impacts other services. There should be a mandatory provision to ensure that the most disadvantaged are still able to access the facilities with dignity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No, current service is what is needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLL should be the best place to live and work. Without quality health and fitness facilities, there is a detrimental and long-term impact on the community with knock effects on health over time. My question is whether WLL can stand alone without support in the current climate - there is not evidence that this is the case from this survey. If centres close as a result of this cut, then this will be a short-sighted proposal with long-term additional costs on the community. More detail required and not available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will be a terrible loss to communities who rely on low costs to make use of these facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Xcite is one of the most positive activities in West Lothian, any weakening of the service would be disappointing and negative for local well being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The loss of West Lothian Leisure facilities would potentially have a huge impact of health & wellbeing across the county. The accessible service provide excellent sources of mental and physical wellbeing and provide sporting and socialisation opportunities for young people which may not be available elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It would be a huge loss to the community to lose these services so support and engagement to ensure they can continue to provide this will be important.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a particular long term danger to the well-being and health of the local community and must be reconsidered. Removing this may have impacts in time on requirement for well-being support as well as health on the elderly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	In my opinion WLC funding support for WLL is an important part of maintaining facilities which benefit health and wellbeing. I do not support removing this funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I do not agree with the removal of this support. Affordable health and fitness venues should be a key part of the council's service provision to the local communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Reducing funding at a time when participating in leisure activities may be a luxury to most people may have a detrimental impact on the health of those living in WL. It may exclude members of the community from participating in activities ran by West Lothian Leisure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No - Xcite is already clearly on its knees and offers so much to the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not everyone can afford the membership fees, especially on low income. Removing funding could lead to increase in health issues, e.g. obesity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Assuming costs will then increase for customers, again impacting those who are expected to try and live on a low income amid a cost of living crisis	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This may be false economy if the leisure facilities become self funded and increase their prices it may stop people being able to afford leisure facilities -gym, swimming-and then the knock on effect of poor ill health if people are not exercising and looking after themselves	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	not really sure how this could be achieved without people being deprived of facilities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Council must ensure young people still have access to sports facilities. They cannot become unaffordable. Free leisure centres play a direct role in the fitness of an area / community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If prices go up, how will it affect the leisure centre would it not be able to cope because people do not want to pay, will it shut down a lot of clubs that rely on its facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	My concern if this proposal goes ahead would be that opportunities for people to access sport and leisure facilities within West Lothian would be reduced. Over the past few years West Lothian Leisure has already received significant reduction to the Core Funding it receives from WLC which has already impacted in the service provision. There is no doubt that some of the proposed saving could be absorbed through further 'efficiencies' within WLL but ultimately the level of saving proposed could result in the closure of existing facilities. This previously happened when Low Port Outdoor Education Centre was closed following a reduction in the Core Funding received by WLL. The other alternative to offsetting the reduction to Core Funding would be to increase charges to customers but this in turn could become a barrier to people being able to access the services that WLL provide. At this moment in time people's health and wellbeing is more important than ever and where possible additional funding should be made available to the services that WLL provide. People who are healthier both mentally and physically will in turn put less strain on other services the Council provides and also on the NHS. People who already experience health inequalities often have a lower income and as their income is already being 'squeezed' by the cost-of-living crisis their ability to access sport and leisure facilities will no doubt be reduced by this proposed reduction in funding to West Lothian Leisure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not in favour of this. Leisure facilities are massively important to communities and should be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure provision is proven to be essential for the health and wellbeing of the population and to help with mental health.; Physical activity has been shown to relieve isolation and contribute to good development of life skills.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The removal of funding will no doubt cause the end of the free swimming sessions at Excite Leisure facilities. This would disadvantage children from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Children need to have the opportunity to exercise and the benefits of exercise for mental health are well documented.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I know the council are struggling financially, but i do wonder if this would ultimately lead to increased costs on the NHS if people aren't getting the activity and exercise and socialisation they need. Same with children learning to swim. So I think this is false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is another area where funded places help our most vulnerable to engage in the community and improve their wellbeing. A vital resource for staff too. Another area where investment and not cuts should be considered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Surely funding west lothian leisure is crucial to allowing people to access services at a reasonable cost. Health and wellbeing should be seen as a priority for all and therefore all people should have access to leisure facilities. If funding is removed, less people would be in a position to access this and the general health of the local population may decline.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Worry it will be the people who use the services will get hit with the short fall.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The impact of people not being able to use the facilities could impact much more. The benefits that facilities provide are beneficial to people's health and wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would worry that West Lothian Leisure couldn't sustain itself and this would be a problem for those who use them. A lot of gyms and swimming pools are already closing due to energy crisis, so what will happen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The provision of leisure in West Lothian is a great avenue for socialisation for many people. Reducing funding would likely result in prices rising for persons who use it. I disagree with these changes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	At the end of the day the council has to make savings but it is not clear how easily WL Leisure can self fund and how this will affect their services. The referral for exercise scheme was already a pale shadow of its former self with very few outlets. As a proven method of improving both physical and mental health it would probably be counter-productive (in health costs to no longer offer this service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No, I don't agree with this. This would be an own goal in terms of health and wellness in West Lothian - these institutes cannot self fund yet so would close.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The people of West Lothian need to have access to affordable leisure facilities if they are to look after themselves and avoid putting strain on Council/NHS Services through poor mental/physical health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We cannot endanger our public gyms and swimming pools. These must be viewed as a priority as without them many families will have no access to leisure facilities and exercise at an affordable price.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	To pull funding from West Lothian Leisure is shocking, for many people in smaller towns and villages this is their only access to any form of exercise and in some cases human contact. Why not try getting people into these facilities to up the income coming in rather than pushing people away?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It's important not to let West Lothian Leisure fail, it's very important to the health and welfare of the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This reduction in core funding to West Lothian Leisure would lead to increase membership prices and possible restrictions of service, both of which are detrimental to the overall health of the community. This could lead to increased spending on mental health and well-being factors in other areas therefore just transferring the expenditure. Having already spent money on the imminent upgrading of the gym at Linlithgow and the brand new facility at Winchburgh, it would be a shame to see these facilities underused because of reduced hours or increased membership costs. Pensioners like us rely on the leisure centre for recreation and exercise at a reasonable cost, to prevent illness and permanent mobility problems so we aren't a burden on the social services. The savings made are minimal compared with other areas of considered cost cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLL provide a key service in providing WLC residents with access to services that help maintain physical & mental health within the community. It would be a worry if this cut in funding impacted WLL and facilities in some areas had to close.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Concern this will lead to increased charges for leisure activities and that this would then impact on the poorer members of society and by default have potential health impact if people cannot access health related activities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Xcite centres are at the heart of many communities. It allows people to maintain a healthy lifestyle - both physical and mental. They support many other activities such as football, gymnastics, Enjoy a Ball. I'm aware already of a boys Scotland U16 player who's training began through a local club using Xcite facilities - any financial withdrawal could impact future potential.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Do not agree as these are valuable to communities and raised fees will result in affordable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	That will trigger increase in monthly charges. We need support ways to keep physical health because later that will affect our health and NHS	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The leisure facilities are very important to towns in West Lothian. If these are no longer funded by WLC, there's a risk they are not able to provide a good service or even to stay open which would be detrimental to all (e.g. activities for children and adults, health and social impacts).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	That is not the best option and should be reviewed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will be catastrophic for physical and mental health as cost will be prohibitive for many	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Don't agree, could result in facilities closing, particularly in less populated areas. Also, West Lothian leisure may have to put prices up which will exclude people from poorer families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I am concerned that this may result in less people using this service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As a WLL customer the proposal to remove this funding makes me really worried for the future WLL provision as surely something this significant would make the current model (which I benefit from and use regularly) entirely unsustainable. I had previously understood there to be requirements (though perhaps this is merely expectation) for local authorities to provide (directly or otherwise) leisure facilities and activities?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	re aligned services by denying them access to services months up to the run up, to have skewed data to tie in with your alignment isn't planning, its abandonment of duty and due care of the people they are meant to help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Oh good. Make people more unhealthy so nhs service costs increase. Genius	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Don't like this idea. People's health must be a priority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Only if you want an obese and depressed population.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No - the health benefits for west lothian residents in being active should not be compromised.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Given the impact of lockdown in 2020 on peoples mental and physical health this will no doubt lead to price rices to access West Lothian leisure facilities and make it more like a private gym and make it inaccessible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would be an unfortunate loss, especially for those who rely on WLL for socialising, fitness and mental well-being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The council should encourage and maybe subsidise leisure activities in some cases. Since WLL is a 'monopoly' in WL, the council should govern its conduct and pricing even beyond this period.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will this lead to increased costs to users? For some families at a time when other costs are increasing this will lead to less people accessing these facilities. In some communities these may be vital	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The councils involvement in leisure services is vital and removing it would mean the chance of an increase in health inequalities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Communities health would suffer with lack of facilities, leading to increased pressure on GP services, Mental Health services, Dementia services etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	So many cuts have already happened. At a point when people are starting to get out and about more and need the council's leisure services- they will be gone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	So again it's the children who suffer as WLL will have no choice but to put prices up making it unaffordable for many. Putting all the other activities to one side, swimming is a life skill which should be accessible to all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Could end up with a lot of leisure facilities closing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would be detrimental to the provisions we currently have. At a time when mental and physical health are recognised as be hugely important to the wellbeing of everyone, this would have a negative impact for West Lothian citizens.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is so sad to learn-West Lothian leisure is accessible for all and wouldn't be if self funded. They'd need to charge a lot more for their facilities to cover their costs which must families couldn't afford.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian leisure plays an enormous role in the life of the community. It should not be underestimated the importance it plays. Health and well-being would be compromised if the facility was not available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Such a shame that it has come to this. Leisure facilities abd their affordable accessibility to all are fundamental to the health and well-being of society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Its the poorer of society that use these facilities and it seems a shame that swimming pools and soft plays, and recreational areas are taken away from those who use them most	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will negatively impact on those working for and using the service. Engage and support is severely unimpactful without financial backing too	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a bad decision again restricting opportunities in the Council area. The low level of savings doesnt justify this change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removing funding from leisure is not a positive at all. Well-being in the community is essential, especially children's activities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is one of West Lothian's priorities - Health and Wellbeing - please ensure it is supported - WLL is an excellent service and offering with scope to generate monies and promote H&WB simultaneously.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No don't agree everybody should be able to access leisure centres locally and be able to afford to! This could lead to some closures which would be a blow to staff and customers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	False economy which may well be detrimental to individual's health and cause increased expenditure in NHS	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Very necessary cost effective service for older people and those with support needs. Approach with caution. Social prescribing already saves NHS money	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this is a detrimental area to remove funding from. Doing so is very likely to push up membership prices, potentially pricing people out of improving their fitness and in turn, their health. This has implications beyond people not being able to attend the gym/fitness classes - it also has potential to, further down the line, put further strain on healthcare services and the health of individuals living in West Lothian. If anything, greater encouragement and facilitation of ways to be healthier should be encouraged rather than reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is perhaps a poor decision. Low and middle income families rely on the West Lothian Leisure facilities as the cost for Private Clubs/Gyms is Prohibitive. The nation needs to be encouraged to 'keep fit' which in turn removes some of the stress felt by the NHS.; Removing the financial support will affect a large proportion of the West Lothian residents. I don't support this move	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If West Lothian leisure can maintain competitive pricing then fine. However, WLL provides services that are critical to well being which has taken a severe hit as a result of Covid so these services need to remain accessible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The council needs to tread very very carefully here. Far too much money is taken out of affluent areas and get invested in other areas resulting in those areas being built up thus creating more demand. Towns like Linlithgow are being take for a ride by the council exec when it comes to getting stuff done. I would hate to see the town fall on 'hard times' due to the fact there are no facilities or a lack of investment before all age groups. This multi year problem will slowly ebb away at the fabric of the town. The combination of what west Lothian offers and what neighbors hood councils in close proximity is great. No one wants to have to travel 8 or 12 miles to go run on a tread mill. Just because services get consolidated to be more profitable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Such a mistake to make, more funding is needed with West Lothian Leisure, get the kids active at sb early age	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Access to Leisure is so important and by removing this finding it will make leisure activities unaffordable and inaccessible for many	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Sport and leisure activities integral to health and wellbeing of our population. Support and investment will benefit for the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The main function here should be to provide leisure activities and services for more people to access the leisure activities easily. Especially to increase the number of Warm Areas to help those who can't afford to heat their homes or feed themselves.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Exercise, health and wellbeing are vital. This proposal must not make leisure activities and services less accessible for all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If WLL no longer get support, their prices will rise in line will other private sports facilities therefore pricing families and individuals on lower incomes out of accessing them which seems short sighted at a time when obesity and type 2 diabetes are on the rise.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The council's leisure centres are a crucial service for our children and the whole population. Learning to swim and the opportunities to take part in sport is currently h a key part of life. Please do not do anything which could jeopardise the future of these services and the benefits they offer to everyone.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained. Opportunity to participate in sport at school will still be available.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Again another step to deprivation. How many pools and facilities are you planning to close? This is a big step to reduce quality of life.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The xcite scheme for a free 3 month gym referral from General Practice is very important resource for many patients and helps to tackle public health issues such as substance misuse, obesity and metabolic syndrome, high blood pressure, and mental health. It would be a great shame to scrap this. A self-funded model would also likely put the monthly fees up for paying members which will mean that a proportion of members will no longer be able to afford it. The loss of Deans and Inveralmond swimming facilities on the weekend is a great loss to many West Lothian families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Mental health problems are a big issue and physical health in Scotland has never been great. This seems incredibly shortsighted. We need to invest in our wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Presume this means that charges for using facilities will increase. Most likely this will lead to less use and decreased revenues, especially given the wider financial situation currently. It seems that Scotland has a chronic issue with ill-health and ready access to affordable exercise has a massive long-term benefit in terms of reduced health care requirements.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This could have a huge impact on the use of Leisure centres and take them out of the price bracket for a lot of families	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will result in a deterioration in health and wellbeing in the county. Council should be more active in this area, not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will cause health problems and affect access to sports for disadvantaged families. Please consider targeting your funding in line with simd.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This should not lead to the reduction of leisure services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This contradicts other attempts at savings as those on other benefits will increase as fitness and well-being decrease.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will this result in passing costs on to customers? Not a great way to support health and wellbeing in our communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Inevitably this will hit less well off families/individuals and likely reduce participation sport and wellbeing. These 'savings' come with a cost to mental and physical wellbeing and hence further burden on the NHS. Needs to be viewed in the round. And again, can there be options in between - subsidised for e.g. families on low income.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If this becomes self funded, I am concerned about broadening the gap, with lower socio economic families potentially being unable to afford access to physical health and wellbeing opportunities, especially children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What will this mean for the services West Lothian leisure deliver given lowport has already closed. A sign of things to come.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No self funding! Look at what happened to lowport. The people need these services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It would be a shame to lose this. With obesity problems a low-priced local leisure centre is essential.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	1K Oppose reducing core funding for public leisure services as this will turn them into a private contractor who will cut services and increase charges to survive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure provide fantastic facilities and this should be the priority. With Covid and the pandemic, access to services and centres to encourage healthy lifestyles should be maintained - particularly as this will help with mental health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If there are no leisure facilities, then this could lead to people not being as fit/healthy so could end up costing more from an NHS point of view.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I believe that if WLC remove core funding from West Lothian Leisure this would lead to much needed community facilities closing down. It would greatly impact the community not to mention the impact on people's wellbeing if leisure facilities were to close due to lack of funding. Currently WLC provide West Lothian Leisure funding to help run their facilities, therefore, I can't see how it will now be feasible for West Lothian Leisure to be self-funded and have a sustainable business, when up until now they have dependent on funding from WLC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Swimming; Gymn; ; This is important for people's well being and if fees are too high in the current climate then non-essential things have to be cut and then you will have people costing more being absent from work due to stress. I am only quoting what the news tells me, I am not dependent on this for my own well-being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Consideration of costs being passed to customers and the impact on their financial and general wellbeing, mental health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Swimming and other sports are already unfordable to most families, therefore making WL Leisure self funded will put prices up when cost of living crisis is ongoing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West lothian leisure still needs to be supported	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Exercise is core to keeping people healthy and mitigates the impact of adverse cuts elsewhere. So WLC is proposing a health tax, to make the use of services such as health centres and pools more expensive!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is such a vital service for the residents of West Lothian and provide good quality activities for the communities they serve, it might end up being non viable to have all their centres open, which will have a negative effect on vulnerable communities. It's already made substantial cuts . Losing LowPort was a huge loss to West Lothian community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The services provided by WLL are key to the physical, mental & emotional well-being of Council inhabitants. Some top-up funding should be retained to ensure these are maintained at close to the current level.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Communities need leisure facilities and at accessible prices for all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this proposal could risk the closure of some WLL places if they struggle to become self funded, in an already tough economic climate for people. WLL provides a huge amount to local communities and a broad range of people use them from children to elderly. I think that could have a massive impact on the physical and mental health of communities and thus putting strain on other resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We need these services to keep people healthy and active!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If there is any way West Lothian Leisure funding can be kept, please do it. Leisure options are limited in West Lothian and more should be done to encourage this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure will struggle to continue to deliver its level of service without some financial help from the council.; If people are unable to access the same level of leisure activities as the moment , this could lead to additional health problems which will put even more pressure on the already stretched NHS	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure provide services that promotes healthy living and reduced mental health issues. These services should be protected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Reducing the funding provided to West Lothian Leisure, without a direct and clear business model for self-funding, will cause a reduction in services and potential closure of certain sites, centres and loss of employment. This is would impact on children's ability to develop their active and sporting skills, have an impact on children reaching their full potential and reduce the number of things children can do in their local area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained, and opportunities to participate in sport at school will remain.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West lothian leisure is a fantastic affordable service in our community. If becoming self funded impacts the affordability then it may become inaccessible to many families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean you no longer substitute memberships for low income households? This would be ashame as a single mother of four I depend heavily on there activities to keep myself and my kids active. Although I do work I can't afford full membership due to beimg in a private let. I've been on the council register for 9 years with not one single house offer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Stop taking away !!! This whole survey is annoying you literally out council tax up by a substantial amount and this is all about how you are basically reducing everything and screw everyone else.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Unfortunately, as the consultation explains, it is necessary for the Council to reduce expenditure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	So leisure.serviced to be cut. That's not helpful. Pools will close and children will.miss out	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained and the opportunity to participate in sport at school will continue.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	That is asking a lot of West Lothian Leisure given the quality of the facilities. These services and facilities need to be made available to everyone and that means at as low a customer price point as possible. This would be very difficult if they were having to run the organisation for profit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As you try to improve the health of West Lothian residents this could be detrimental in that plan. West Lothian has high rates of social deprivation, obesity and chronic illness, this will do nothing to encourage health lifestyles if free leisure is removed. I do however believe if you can pay for it you should. We need to ensure we continue to develop our athletes of the future and often free or subsidised leisure is the start of it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This may cause a big reduction in facilities for all to help with fitness and general wellness. I worry the less funding may cause closure of facilities that are desperately needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will lead to these services not being g free to all in WL and most likely many closures of leisure facilities. I do not support this at all.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It is important for West Lothian Leisure still to provide important services as exercise is linked to wellness and health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would have a detrimental impact on offering leisure opportunities to people, impact peoples health and well being. Leisure services and the benefit provided to the community are important.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The people of West Lothian won't be able to afford attending any Excite facilities the way things are going!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is a disastrous. We have a weight problem population and you want to charge more for people who want to help themselves instead of offering more help ; This will put more pressure on other services ie doctors hospitals and child care when parents are unavailable for child care	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This may make leisure too expensive for most people and create greater socio-economic divide within the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Measure services must be provided at affordable prices	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Could put local facilities at risk of closure. Don't think this is a good option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is one area I where I caution unintended side effects of decreased uptake by younger people leading to anti social behaviour and health issues. Those may take time to appear but would prove more costly. That may well be someone else's budget but unwise for our community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think it's very important to keep West Lothian leisure going both for the communities physical and mental well-being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Keen to understand the impacts this may have on accessibility of these services to lower income families and users who may otherwise have little means to positively engage in leisure, sport and social activities outwith their home. I fear this would impact loneliness, mental health and well-being.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The potential loss of WLL could be appalling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would assume that removing the funding and expecting these services still to be on offer will never work. The majority of people who benefit from these services will never be able to afford the cost of accessing the services given other pressures on their salary	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure plays a critical role in the local community, and the investment from the Council in this will more than pay for itself in benefits to health and well-being. It is vital the level of council funding is not reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would be worried about long term investment that West Lothian leisure would be able to make. Will it generate enough income to support future maintenance programs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Free swimming in the holidays is life saver for many families. Reducing provision for those with health issues is a false economy	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Against. This is an important service to many.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Totally disagree. This will result in the closure and reduction of access to various leisure activities in the area. At this time when we have concerns re mental and physical health and well being this would be a backward step. ; For all the saving the outcome in the future would be more costly in the long run.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think that you should reconsider this it has been proven that exercise is a fantastic way to reduce stress and help with mental health .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Suggest that this is not progressed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will almost certainly raise the cost of using West Lothian Leisure facilities, putting health.and fitness resources (which improve mental health too) out of the reach of many residents.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will have a massive effect on the local community in an unhelpful way. People will be unable to afford to access these facilities if they are run in the same way as private gyms.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will result in prices going up and less people being able to afford these services. Absolutely terrible if this happens	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The council supporting the Leisure should be seen as a positive, in todays world the people that benefit from leisure facilities is essential to their wellbeing to withdraw the funding could make this not financially viable for the West Lothian Leisure to continue due to the competition from large leisure companies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would suggest that no unwanted closures of West Lothian Leisure facilities should be allowed as a direct result of this funding being withdrawn. Once this is confirmed then the remaining savings should be made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will increase the cost of the customer and most people will not be able to afford the service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	that would lead to closure of many facilities around areas	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLL facilities are already falling apart and need funding. loss of support will either close venues or cost extra which will be passed on to the customer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What will the impact of this be? What services will be reduced / removed?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	These points would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would this affect how people access services provided by West Lothian Leisure? If it became a self-funded (private?) entity, would some people lose access to it?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	These points would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Self/funded- don't you mean more expensive?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	How will self funding be achieved?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would be interested to know if this would have any effect on Howden Park Centre which is a resource that is needed in community.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I don't personally benefit from schools/social care but appreciate they are identified as priority.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What happens if WLL cant manage on the budget that it has?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will this have an impact on access to leisure services - perhaps costs increasing that prevent some families being able to use services. Also, will schools who need to use WL leisure facilities for health and wellbeing activities be prevented from doing so due to costs	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	How exactly would west lothian leisure self fund? It should still be part of the council and funded mainly by them as tax payers are contributing towards these facilities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean that West Lothian Leisure (WLL) will start paying Parks & Woodland / Property for the use of the premises/facilities at Polkemmet Country Park? How will the relationship between WLL and Parks & Woodland change?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If you're continuing with something, where are the savings coming from?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What impact does this have on the community?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will this affect individuals prescribed exercise by their GPs? What about disabled residents who are able to receive discounted memberships? The need for affordable activity and social contact that this provides to many people should be considered	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean that it will become more expensive for West Lothian residents to use West Lothian Leisure facilities?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I'm not sure what part of West Lothian Leisure WLC funds at the moment so can't say if I support this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Thus service is one that a lot of lower income families use if funding is removed will this effect access to these facilities?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean a reduction of service, or an across the board increase to West Lothian Leisure's customers?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean users will pay more for services? If so does this mean the poorest will be excluded by cost? Are the Council happy about this?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The Council, in the face of this unsustainable financial position, has just announced WLL as the service provider of the Winchburgh Wellbeing facilities at the new school campus. How does that square with reducing its funding? In other words, this proposal doesn't seem to make much sense.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The whole world knows that WLL is bust without Council non recurrent support. So why would a grant reduction to WLL make financial sense when it would simply come back at the Council in additional required non recurrent support at year end?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As previously mentioned	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I have used several of the centres over the years and, unless we are suggesting that we shut them all down if they can't support themselves, any potential closures would be a major loss to any location. So hopefully the loss of funding is manageable for WLL. What level of increase will be needed on charges?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This does not explain the impact to the service and users so unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not sure this is a good idea.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What impact will this have on you groups running out of community high schools - costs will make this impossible	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I assume WLL pay a commercial rent for facilities in use. If so what is the net financial position	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will the Council continue to fund W.L Leisure capital projects. Its not clear how the costs of past and any future projects are dealt with in the Council's accounts. Reducing the revenue funding (to zero) may not be removing all WLL costs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Without funding will Leisure facilities need to close?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to determine a sustainable business model.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unsure about this as it is already costly to use the facilities in West Lothian Leisure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to what the knock-on affect to West Lothian Leisure would be and ultimately how it will affect the public for using these facilities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	How would WLL be supported in making this change to ensure they do not close, and that they can provide facilities to those most in need?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will that mean it will be like a commercial gym? Healthy living is very important for everyone. Making leisure facilities unaffordable for many is not a good long term strategy.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to determine a sustainable business model.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Again I would imagine with regards to mental health, wellbeing and youth services I would think cuts could potentially lead to greater expense to the council for the future?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What analysis have you done on the link between reduced access to health and fitness and a potential increase in healthcare costs from an even more unhealthy population?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Can WL Leisure be self sufficient? It is important that such provisions are not going to be accessible to only those who have enough income to pay. The health of all in West Lothian is vital.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to determine a sustainable business model.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It is not a core council service but does help with the community's health and well-being - has this been considered and the impact of more young people being on the street and inactivity?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Core funding will be removed. What is the likelihood that WL Leisure can be self supporting without further closures; eg The Lowport Centre	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Is this plausible in the current UK crisis? Would not having council backing mean that leisure centres could provide less opportunities for community members or have more closures due to repair works.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will this mean the reduction of staff? Will libraries close or opening times be reduced?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The savings proposals have developed with a view to maximising efficiency and maintaining performance and customer service. Any staffing efficiencies will be delivered through non replacement of vacant posts where possible and otherwise through the implementation of the Council's organisational change policy. The Council operates a no redundancy practice.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	so they will close	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As per previous comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I do not have enough knowledge in this area to make comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not sure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I have no comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	?? No	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I don't feel I have enough knowledge on this area to offer an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unable to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	...	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	not applicable	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian leisure is a big part of the community	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will all West Lothian Leisure facilities, especially those in areas of deprivation, continue to exist? What other measures will the Council take to encourage increased physical activity and thus help reduce the toll on individuals' physical, mental and emotional health as well as reducing the cost incurred through disease and disability related to inactivity and obesity?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The estimated cost saving for this is double what the cost is for the council for the new cycle route in Linlithgow - what are the numbers who use West lothian leisure and would therefore benefit healthwise at local facilities which are also indoors.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Currently operating as one of the lowest subsidised providers in the industry, has a risk analysis been carried out to look at the longer-term effects of reduced funding?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Q - How this would be implemented whilst allowing WLL to maintain its visibility within the community and continue to develop programmes to meet the needs of all user groups, whilst operating with additional financial constraints?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Is this necessary, promoting health and wellbeing will improve health, reducing teh need for spending on health and social care	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will it go bust leaving us without liesure facilities?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Jshd	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No Comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Not enough detail of impacts to make an assessment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	noting to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What impact on communities with regard to sport & exercise will this have?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Detail will be worked out in discussion with West Lothian Leisure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The council will have to consider the impact of removing funding for these facilities, particularly in less affluent communities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Will this be to the cost of the public. ie price of leisure contract being more expensive?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as it remains affordable for everyone. If cutting the funding to community schools and leisure centres, where are the kids going to go to access cheap leisure services like swimming?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Is there a danger to sports facilities being withdrawn due to this which may have an impact on health?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Didnot know West Lothian Leisure was part funded	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Given the current cost of energy, will this result in a reduction of service or the closure of some facilities?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Only if there is nothing affecting its current services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will effect a lot of people	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	mi***** (redacted)	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What impact will this have?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	In theory this is one way that the council could make savings, although these are not substantial.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean increased membership fees and venue closures?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Removing funding, have the council measured the effect this may have across West Lothian in respect the the health and wellbeing of individual tax paying members of the public if local amenities close?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is not cost effective as whole buildings can be open for very little revenue and staff costs etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Although this sounds like makes sense in principle can West Lothian Leisure continue without this funding?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I cannot comment on WLL's sports service, but their management of school/community halls is disastrosly poor, as well as having major cost increases. Also, they are impossible to contact.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would this mean paying for facility at point of use ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I'm pretty sure I recall WL Leisure being bailed out a few years back. Given the current economic climate with fuel costs rising and inflation soaring it's patently obvious those circumstances will reduce income for WL Leisure as people prioritise their spending. Have your calculations factored in a significant reduction in membership fees and are you prepared to allow a valuable community asset to potentially become insolvent?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	How exactly will West Lothian leisure be self funded not sure they will make enough to sustain this just from public use.)	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As a user of West Lothian Leisure, hope self-funding permits survival for them.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What business will this impact and what does this mean for them. Will they be able to self fund or will this end in places closing?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Working more with them definitely and learning from private rum housing special housing g alot better	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What kind of affects it will have on the people living in West Lothian?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would hope WL Leisure can continue under the self-funded model.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure centres are pretty shoddy in west lothian they are much better in Fife where the council has kept hold of them. It's a shame that the council just seems to want to buy computers and have meetings amongst managers but not doesn't care about the fitness of the community.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	How can WLL be self funded ? What about swimming pools , gyms etc will this lead to closures and job losses ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would WLC continue to manage the open spaces for WLL?	4. The council is already doing this.	This point would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No, if you remove core funding what little services there are would be at risk of complete closure. £750k seems a small amount to pay for such a big area. What you should be encouraging them to do is come up with a model that is self-sustaining but maintains access for local residents or what could happen is a private company decides there is an opportunity and tries to buy it and make it expensive.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	My daughter had had many opportunities through the old service. Low cost and we feel supported.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Funding should be in place to ensure that lower income households have access to these services.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WL Leisure should be supported to offer subsidised pricing for families living in poverty rather than prices restricting people from accessing Leisure options	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Again lets revisit the Civic Centre. I would love to know where the cuts are going to be made there as there are none that are currently evident. People are being hit with the toughest of times now and heavily rely on "leisure activities". Are people expected to fund everything themselves? Lets get a breakdown on where the revenue from the council tax feeds into.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Funded leisure helps keep people of all walks of life fit and healthy. Privatisation will increase cost and make it unattainable for many.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Leisure is not part of the Council.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	These facilities have been bought and paid for by the public in the way of taxation or contributions and should remain under the Council umbrella.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Leisure is not part of the Council.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WL Leisure provides a range of services for children, young people and retired communities and these need encouragement.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Getting the people of West Lothian moving & active is the golden ticket to cost savings. I'm not convinced the Leisure centres do this, particularly when you see the quality of catering. Active travel and reduced car use should be a focus for peoples physical and mental health.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Howden Park Centre/ culture what will happen here? We need children to play/exercise/take part in sports/swim these were all removed by West Lothian council. You should be encouraging these	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	You need to liase with staff in this area...	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Health and well-being essential for a brighter future but heating swimming pools all the time. Re look at the model and make savings.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure provides vital services to communities. The council should engage with West Lothian leisure to ensure this action is achievable and sustainable otherwise important services could be at risk.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We need to ensure the services we provided are still fit for purpose and do not represent poor value for money.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If WL leisure is operating independently for profit it is likely that this will make services more expensive. It would therefore be imperative that access to wellbeing activities for young people from our most disadvantaged backgrounds would need to be looked at.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	More information on the impact towards the users of West Lothian Leisure will be needed. Why during a period where there is a push to improve peoples health and well-being would it be good to remove funding for a very important asset within the West Lothian Community. With the increase in the number of private leisure clubs across the council why is more not being done to encourage locals to join council facilities which provide better facilities? Should we not be encouraging people to improve their health and well-being?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Ensure that excite remains competitive.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This should only go ahead IF West Lothian Leisure can confidently self fund itself! If this is not the case then WLC should consider their brief to provide sporting facilities to the community for health and mental wellbeing rather than just for the sake of saving a small amount.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It's not a very big saving considering the services provided and again, outsourcing is not viable	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Privatisation will drive up costs for younger people and families. This may mean they have to stop using a service which gives them a release from stresses. If they are not used this could lead to loss of facility. A lot of people go to private gyms and pay more so if people may be willing to pay more for other activities.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Leisure is not part of the Council.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would like to see a system of providing access to leisure facilities for those members of the public who could not afford to pay full cost subscriptions or memberships.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The council should be working in partnership with West Lothian Leisure to ensure any out of hours clubs or sports can be provided to our youngsters at an affordable price. Currently pitch lets and pool hire is costing the individual far too much and the service is unreliable.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Swimming should be free for all school children	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Making the private, it should still be affordable for children to use to stay fit and active.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained, and opportunities to participate in sport at school will remain.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	A consistent model of support, provision and service delivery needs to take place to allow for this saving to happen. Decisions regarding facility development and refurbishment appear to have been made on a whim in the past with little to no consideration given to the needs of local people and the facilities that exist already. Too much money is spent on facilities without a proper overview of local facilities being mapped out allow for the most effective use of funds. The council and WLL will undoubtedly need to streamline its facility portfolio and support should be provided to communities to allow for greater potential for transfer of facilities to community groups.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If West Lothian Leisure will be self funded then I see no place for West Lothian Council. If the council does fund then OK, if not then Council should move onto other areas of focus.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	How much is spent on clothing & breakfast/lunches not used. Keeping people active is a long term gain.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Public leisure facilities being privatised. This will ensure the public pay more for these services in the long run	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What service delivery? - Why not just have done and shut it down? It's been unfit for purpose for a decade already!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What purpose does "The council would continue to engage and support West Lothian Leisure in reviewing its business model and service delivery for communities." if the funding is removed. Surely WLL have people as equally competent (if not more) who understand their market than having someone foisted on them from WLC ?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will be catastrophic for clubs and societies who already find that West Lothian leisure seeks to exploit evening lets and are already excluding clubs through their pricing. We the council tax payers already have funded the building of these facilities and to have another organisation other than the council exploiting us for what we have already paid is unacceptable. Would prefer the termination of West Lothian Leisure and taking these things in house in a socially responsible way	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The link to arts and cultural services have dramatically been reduced and now does not appear to sit within West Lothian Council's core services, again depriving our youth of historical, national and cultural knowledge within a child's learning or within later life. Howden Park Centre continues to make a huge impact on the life of a wide number of user groups that visit the venue and the work that the management team at Howden Park Centre have done over the past few years has rightly recognised the benefits that Theatre, Arts and learning bring to the local community. It would be tragic to see future generations miss out on the opportunity to experience leisure, arts and cultural services as part of their community and environment if these services were reduced.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Turn gym and classes to private to increase profits	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Either cut all ties with West Lothian Leisure or keep it associated with the council. However the danger is that the facilities at West Lothian Leisure are out of date/tired and with the increases in membership fees you're starting to make the service unaffordable to families and I'd rather pay the same amount to a private Leisure Company like David Lloyd etc. with better quality facilities. West Lothian Leisure destroyed Low Port Centre and thus evicted a community playgroup, I only use the service because of my children learning to swim. I don't have much confidence in West Lothian Leisure especially without West Lothian council help.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	A gym membership is OTT expensive for working people, the usual discounts apply to people on benefits... this is the wrong way round, it is people who work that need the discount	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We should be investing this into our own council leisure such as our staff and pool within the council. We only have one pool.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I believe that West Lothian Leisure requires more funding to allow services to like the swimming pool to open at hours that supports working families.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure facilities are becoming too expensive already and this area should be fully supported.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think the council should still provide some funding to West Lothian Leisure for school age children to promote healthy lives for things like swimming and gymnastics.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Funding for swimming pools at the very least would be beneficial for the communities health. Or even two main xcite hubs like Bathgate sports centre and Craigswood sports centre.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Don't agree, it should still be funded as it is providing a community service which is important. You don't pay that much and it would be frittered away on something else not necessary. They should receive more funding now with taking on another school	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If this is going to go ahead then the council should look at the potential next steps WLL will inevitably take and how this will impact the poorest in the region. This will cause a lot of poorer families to remove children from swimming and sports classes. A means tested subsidy scheme should be considered if this goes ahead to maintain a balance	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Recreation facilities are essential to wellbeing. Increase budget but rationalise services. Do not compete with private sector businesses.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We need investment, not more cuts	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Keep the swimming pool funded and move all the other facilities to private. The pool is mostly used by children learning to swim which is a vital skill and keeping it funded would allow more children to use it ; ;	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Keep pool funded, people already pay for use of the pool, and it is very important for children's learning and keeping fit and healthy. ; ;	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The council should then look at funding or organizing alternative programs for children which then can take over the functionality of WLL.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The purpose of the consultation is to identify budget reductions rather than service expansion. Unfortunately resources are not available to support this.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Provide services for local people controlled by the local authority	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is not to return West Lothian Leisure to Council control.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Non-crucial services such as this should be run as profit making businesses to help support the shortfall in crucial services.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is not to return West Lothian Leisure to Council control.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	we have a lot of swimming pools in West lothian, could we consolidate into one big facility?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. No capital funding exists for the construction of a new consolidated facility, and users may not be able to travel to use such a facility.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	How sustainable is this going to be as West Lothian leisure has been self funded a couple of times and then the council have to swoop in and bail them out. Surely it would make more sense in the long run for the council to buy over West Lothian leisure (again) and although a bit outlay to begin with it would be a source of income for the council?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is not to return West Lothian Leisure to Council control.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There are far too many swimming pools. It is such a waste of resource. Three pools is sufficient for all of West Lothian.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is not to close facilities.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Reduce the number of swimming pools in West Lothian. There are far too many and with utility costs currently spiralling it surely makes sense to consider which ones are actually needed.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is not to close facilities.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure should be scrapped = and why is the council asking about? Whenever something goes badly the council washes their hands of it, when it goes well a councillor will appear on a press release. It is time to scrap West Lothian Leisure and get the council to run it.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure should become the management agent for all school sports facilities.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure was a mistake from day 1. The Brittas Empire on steroids. Get it back in house, close some of the pools (we have more per head than anywhere else in the country), charge higher fees (we're way lower than anywhere else) and start means testing the free users.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Join this with schools for synergies in savings and investment in children's learning.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your response. School sports facilities are necessary for both delivery of the curriculum, and extra curricular activities, and access is required at the times necessary to allow these twin aims, which would not leave much time available for the public access expected by users in return for their subscription.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Is this not likely to result in the failure of WLL? ; ; Suggest sharing of schools' facilities with public. Noticed this in other council areas eg ; ; Joint leisure centre, swimming pool and outdoor all-weather pitches at Callander High School ; ; Play area and pitch in new West Linton Primary School open for children to use in evenings and weekends	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your response. School sports facilities are necessary for both delivery of the curriculum, and extra curricular activities, and access is required at the times necessary to allow these twin aims, which would not leave much time available for the public access expected by users in return for their subscription.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If taking the funding away means that centre's will close, then this will not be an efficiency! Can West Lothian Leisure operate as a self-funded organisation? Has there been a means test to this and a budget created using this model without closing sites or cutting services?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This only works if West Lothian Leisure is able to generate sufficient income to be self sufficient. Need to consider that price rises to use services would likely exclude those struggling just now, leading to reduced income overall. The council needs to ensure continued access to these services for community health and well being.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	These points would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Please remember that some families do not have money to pay for out of school activities, hopefully they will not suffer in this proposal.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This point would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Presume West Lothian Leisure will either have to close/reduce services or increase prices. Will their still be an WLC presence on the WL Leisure Board? Probably inappropriate if there is no longer a funding link. Suspect this may have major impact on the available sports and leisure facilities for the residents of West Lothian.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	These points would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	perhaps an agreement could include some funding from the council to remain to allow WL leisure to offer help for people with disabilities, or for children to receive some subsidy so they can access leisure facilities for health and wellbeing reasons for the wl community.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The demise of Falkirk's leisure and cultural services recently is a good example of how the reduction in community resources can kill the aspirations and opportunities of the communities we live in.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Consideration needs to be given regarding the entire approach to sporting facilities. The council appears to be putting WLL out of business by allowing community facilities and schools to undercut the rates charged for similar activities. Why would I hire a badminton court for £4.70 per hour at WLL when I can get one in a Community Centre for a fraction of that cost?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Surely some subsidy should still remain for children? Happy for changes so that Xcite etc become more self funded, but keen that children not bear the brunt	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained, and opportunities to participate in sport at school will remain.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I have mixed views on this proposal. As an organisation West Lothian Leisure shouldn't be funded but equally key resources, and in particular swimming pools, should never have been hived of to this pseudo independent entity. I have grave reservations on what the likely outcome of these proposals could be for communities and see it as a culmination of a longer term flawed policy. Very careful consideration needs to be had for the potential fallout of matters linking to this item.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Being outside and free exercise options are there.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Swimming provision in schools is poor and sometimes non-existent. Given WLL were recently recognised with a national award for their Learn to Swim programme, it would be good to know what support or offer will/can be made to schools as support for swimming in primary schools. This needs to be better and if the council are set to remove funding previously allocated to WLL for this then I'd have huge concerns about the future swimming abilities of children.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Cuttin cost znd keeping it down	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It seems that services are already cut to a minimum, bins are emptied, lights are dimmer grass verges are overgrown, refuse sites are manned but staff not very helpful, sit and watch you when they could help.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	People in Livingston are effected by the poverty decile they are allocated. Factors that effect this are the access to shops and to my point local leisure facilities if these become private entities then the people who do not get additional support because their decile has been inflated by location will definitely not be able to afford to use the facilities.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The service provided by WLL would need to be improved as schools currently fund any requirements regarding equipment etc regardless of whether it is used by the school or if it is left as available for the let and therefore is a burden to the school DSM.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Yikes. Hope WLL has a good business continuity plan in place	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We used to use a local high school for swimming but all that seems to have stopped now which is a great shame.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian is slowly turning into a place where only the retired and those on benefits are supported	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Schools continued to be built with Pools and this is not a financially beneficial strategy due to the inefficient costs of the pool heating and lack of ROI from the pool not being used during school hours.;	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The leisure and culture services provided by West Lothian Leisure have clearly been recognised as one of the best and most efficient leisure services in the UK. The benefits to the health and wellbeing to thousands of customers visiting the services each week deserve recognition and investment. Partnerships developed with the NHS make incredible life changing impacts on patients being referred from the NHS with both my elderly parents and extended family benefiting from this. The saving being made by reducing patients entering into hospitalisation or rehabilitation for longer periods and the reduction to prescribed medication are broadly undervalued on the ROI West Lothian Leisure provide, by West Lothian Council.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Ouch	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Waste of time and money building all these partnership centres	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No ridiculous vanity projects, such a waste of essential money.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The meaning of the response is unclear.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I hope that this will not lead to problems for West Lothian leisure. The services they provide are excellent, and are part of what makes West Lothian a good place to live.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will lead to the closure of many Xcite facilities which are already difficult enough to access. Lack of exercise options is bad for mental and physical health and will lead to greater need for NHS assistance. As an Xcite member is already ridiculously difficult to access my local swimming pool which has almost half its hours dedicated to children's swimming lessons and private club use. If my local pool were to close I would be unable to attend any other location as I require care/assistance and I cannot afford the cost of bus fare to travel out with my local town. Too many of Xcite's facilities eg outdoor learning programme are ONLY for children. Opening these up to adults without children would provide a valuable income source as would increasing the heavily discounted price for OAP usage of eg swimming. I also find this a completely bizarre decision when you are proudly trumpeting about building top of the range sports and swimming facilities in the new Winchburgh school, choose Xcite to run it and then cut them loose.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Wrong move. At a time when households are pushed to the limit reducing these services or charging for them is counter productive. Devolved Govt needs to look at it budgets and backhanders more closely and make sure the council receives the right funding..	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I would like to see deans high school swimming pool being reopened to the public. I always enjoyed going for a swim there and its a 2 minute walk from my house, also my daughter and granddaughter enjoyed a swim there. No way am i travelling to inveralmond as i would need to take the car	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure should strongly consider opening its facilities earlier to attract those in full time employment. E.g Broxburn swimming pool doesn't open till 08.30 which is too late for traditional workers to go before having to start work. They are likely missing a huge potential source of custom and members.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think timetables need looked at and also the introduction of fitness classes for under 16's as I think this would also attract a lot of business for WLL	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Exercise is an important part of our lives. I have seen WLL busy and also very quiet. I think timetables need looked at and also the introduction of fitness classes for under 16's as I think this would also attract a lot of business for WLL	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I assume this will lead to an increase in Xcite membership fess, which will probably lead to the less fortunate to stop/reduce physical activities. This will have a longterm effect, which I hope will have been thought through.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Put prices at xcite up	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Who is going to combat the obesity and preventative measures with an ageing seditary population without some kind of financial support for those who need it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Swimming pools need to be open later at weekends. Less swimming lessons unless designated separate pools. Sick of going swimming and lessons taking up the shallow end. Parents need to teach their own kids to swim!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	So more prices will end up going up at the cost of the public! People don't have the money for these luxuries as it is!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	More pressure for employees and managers to keep things afloat. Again a strain on mental health. The NHS will not cope with the level of referrals employees worrying turning to stress. Maybe billions of profit should be redirected to local authorities.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	In a society where obesity is on the rise perhaps the council should rethink this and provide more affordable activities for the residents.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If this means increased costs for user of these facilities, clubs that use these facilities eg, swimming, football, hockey etc and individuals then this may potentially exclude access for low income families.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There should be community engagement on how this will impact leisure services. Not only in the short term but also the impact on future development. How will WLL grow its offer if it has not secure funding. I'd be worried that it would fold and end up with mothballed services.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Council staff discount for West Lothian Leisure membership should be maintained.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure went through a comprehensive staffing structure review 4 years ago so, which now has shown to have been too severe due to challenges staffing facilities and providing services to the community due to lack of staff.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would result in xcite not being competitive in pricing. Lot of private companies offer more cost effective memberships	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Thanks, that will mean WL Leisure will then increase their income by getting us to pay more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This sounds like swimming pools will shut which will reduce healthy outcomes	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	These facilities are needed but are way to expensive	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is big business and this area should be income generating for the council.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As long as there's no reduction in the facilities and services provided currently.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to determine a sustainable business model.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	will this impact the Leisure facilities within West Lothian, if funding is cut-e.g. closures of swimming pools etc	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to determine a sustainable business model.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	So pull the plug causing prices to rise and become unaffordable to the masses although having checked prices of swimming for an elderly person (not yet 65) is already out of my budget	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Could saving nit be made by simply increasing the charges to use such service inline with the private sector	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian Leisure is an extremely important service to the community and is well supported. It should be a service available to all at a reasonable cost.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	We need leisure facilities in West lothian. No cuts should be made to the budget. You should be trying to find ways to get more people to use the services. For example, if the fees were cheaper I think more people would use it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I can't see the leisure facilities staying in place, in good condition and at an affordable price, without this funding. Children and adults must have access to swimming lessons etc.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	More money would be made if people keep using these facilities	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Has anyone ever thought about trying to make West Lothian Leisure a profit centre? Or are you not allowed to do that?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	West Lothian leisure has a vital role in the health outcomes of West Lothian to cut support here could lead to adverse outcomes socially & mentally as well as in the health and well-being of all ages.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	It's already cheaper to go to Falkirk for a swim (including the fuel) than to use Bubbles pool so I'm not sure this change would help people as I imagine places like that would just raise their prices even further.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This will have a negative effect on smaller communities which may not have as many xcite members using the facilities and meaning that some venues may have to close which will not ensure that communities remain healthy . If membership was cheaper more people would join which would eventually make more money for xcite. Perhaps looking at swimming only memberships etc or gym memberships	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This sounds like a big hit to WLL which serves its communities well. One might look at what else WLL might be able to do to support other aspects of council services - for example education, health, care...	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	the reduced monthly access for xcite for people on benefits needs to be kept in place	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	That's worrying and I hope Xcite will be in a strong enough position to continue to run. We need places like this. Out towns are already run down enough and provide hardly ANY leisure facilities. To my mind we need more not less. Only last Wednesday night when i was waiting to go into the Council meeting in Whitburn, there were kids playing on the roof at the cross. Xcite should in fact change it's hours and stay open later and offer the coffee machine and seating area for young people to go. On an organised basis.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Saved. Send more guns 𐄂 to the .2 more shots...more lives killed.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Woo hoo, more fat people for Scotland. Let's ditch the sugar tax too and be done with the population	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I blame ***** (redacted)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Xcite are not fit for purpose. The management of the facilities is dreadful, over priced for community groups to fund and in flexible. As a member of education staff and as part of a committee dealing with the booking of such facilities it is a horrendous system.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think venues that are not well used should be closed or closed when they are not well used. Customers impact is minimal and opening times should reflect customer demand.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Comments will be provided to WLL in order that these are considered as part of their ongoing service modelling.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This would be difficult as they would be trying to secure funding that the third sector would be seeking for the additional services being currently delivered	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	close venues when they aren't well used. Most of these venues are empty a lot of the time - so close them	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Hopefully this won't see the closure of much needed leisure facilities in some of our poorest areas.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If this funding is completely removed, the board of WLL would require restructuring as is currently largely facilitated by councillors and would leave WLL less able to protect and support their staff who are affected by the cost-of-living crisis. WLL already pay lower hourly rates than other surrounding leisure providers. In the current economic climate the protection of people's health and mental health is more important than ever!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Why is there a high percentage of young people in more deprived areas not accessing these facilities especially your Excite gyms and swimming pools due to the cost	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Need better staffing levels use polkemmet golf a lot of the time no staff on reception	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The £750,000 cost saving could come from trimming the management levels in the Excite organisation.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure facilities are vital to keep young people off the streets and provide children with a life saving skill of swimming. To boost income, can some of the rooms be rented out to private beauty/ therapy providers to close the gap? More attractive coffee shop offers would also help.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Support for solar panels on south facing roofs to help with heating swimming pools. Something which might provide economies of scale is organised centrally as part of the hand over.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	councilors should close facilities that aren't busy	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLL's provision has changed significantly over the last few years. Costs have increased and the less well off use facilities less. For WLL to be self funding, I suspect this will mean significant cost increases.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I find it really disappointing that Deans Community High no longer allows members of the public to use its facilities. ; It used to be the hub of the community and I used its facilities for evening classes, gym, swimming, Under 5's Centre over the past 30 years. It's a big loss to the Deans area. Poor show West Lothian Council !!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I mostly use private services as the cost at the councils services are very expensive and not as good	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Prices to reflect all households to help support wll	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Safety in these spaces needs to be addressed.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Have core facilities open 24 hours to reflect the modern needs of gym access. This might require closing of some facilities to facilitate the savings but possibly a better option than a number of facilities with staggered opening times.; ; Better access to the school estate and the facilities available would possibly assist with this. Community school models worked well historically.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Just don't shut any leisure facilities or pools maybe look at schools sharing amenities	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Keep some money aside as a buffer.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The pools need to be open longer at the weekend.; Perhaps with a more enticing programme of classes and fun session this could generate more money.; What about disco pool sessions,fun sessions, inflatable, aqua aerobics for teens, diving classes, late night dips. There is so much more that could be done with the spaces. Understandably the facilities cost money to run but having them closed generates no money.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Does this mean that leisure groups ie people who run monthly dances, exercise classes are going to be priced out of hiring halls as their group members may not be able to afford the increased fees is already happening when a dance or even a wedding runs beyond 10pm	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Assistance and perhaps joint arrangements with other competitors in the provision of leisure type services should perhaps be looked at, also voluntary clubs and activity groups to be encouraged to use WLL premises instead of council buildings which could then be used for food banks etc;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	One small suggestion - reduce opening hours during midweek days before 3.30pm during term time. Usage at these times doesn't justify the cost of staying open, those using facilities at these times could use them at other times, and most of those using the services during these times are getting non means-tested concessions anyway, further increasing costs.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would make sense to target some funding based on average wealth in the area of the facilities.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. Such funding is out with the powers of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Since Tuesday 20th September, Craigshill Health Centre had prescribed a 12-week exercising regime at West Lothian Leisure (Xcite) to manage my blood pressure. Xcite sent me a letter the next week, saying I should await further instructions from them on scheduling an interview. Today's November 18. I'm still waiting for their letter. I'm deeply disappointed, especially since this is about health and life.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Gym providers are popping up all over the place yet WLL appear to continue to offer the same level of package that they have always done in the same areas. Some radical thinking and use of alternative facilities could help provide a far more streamlined model that could really provide services according to the needs of communities that are not always the same.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The cost of living crisis has a lot to answer for, people don't have as much money!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Hopefully leisure centres will not be shut down.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. West Lothian Leisure will consider options in light of the agreed budget measure.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	some facilities already need maintenance	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	would close facilities places already need maintenance. Need new pools better facilities to amalgamate services	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Consequences of removed funding is not mentioned- more detail required	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money. It will be interesting to see what the knock on effect of a reduced grant will have for the service and therefore their charging model to local people!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	These points would be addressed in discussion with WLL during implementation of the proposal.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	That is a death knell and the council knows it!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If you take this away the prices at the facilities will inevitably have to increase. This will bring them in line with other gyms and make them outwith the reach of most people who currently use the facilities.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Im worried this will put the leisure facilities in danger of closing. They are so important for health and well-being.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is sad to hear. It is worrying to hear that they will be self-funded as this may mean a rise in prices.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is awful!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Reduced income leading reduced service delivery but this proposal is vague in detail	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I do not understand how the funding works but this is a vital resource for promoting health +fitness so I hope it will continue to be affordable to all.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Doubt it will survive as a business without council funding.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This sounds like it will have a significant impact on communities abilities to maintain services which is worrying at a time of increased mental health issues, obesity and stress	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	WLL cannot compete in a competitive market when they have for example expensive swimming pools to run & free access to certain groups. Removal of this funding could lead to there being no access within WL to pools & they may also remove free access to groups.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Leisure facilities are vital services in many communities and I would be worried this may lead to a reduction in hours at some sites.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I feel this may have an affordability impact on wellbeing for those using the leisure services	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I think this could have a negative effect on the community, especially if prices need to be increased or services limited	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	A desperate measure	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This is awful!;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	If not financial, how will the council continue to engage and support WLL? Would be clearer if there were specific examples provided.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	No negative implications described here at all, why are you asking the public if you should make this saving, why are you not just making the savings. This survey doesn't make any sense? hope it didn't cost too much.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	dont really know what this mean	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Again smaller areas have already seen these cuts and this has an effect on the community.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Once again, hit our young people, well done !	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	What has been the response from West Lothian Leisure to this and have they said that they will be able to maintain their level of service and keep facilities open? Their is no mention of how much contued engagement and support would cost, nor what it actually would mean.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	This might be a little controversial, removing core funding in favour of 'self-funding'. Well, just what comes under 'Leisure'? Could use more detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	How this will impact the user has not been explained so I am unable to give meaningful comments.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Think Leisure facilities are important in the community for health and well-being	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I expect it will close then.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Do not understand what the proposed changes really involve. It appears to me that leisure facilities are becoming more and more exclusive, especially with swimming facilities in West Lothian. Families simply cannot afford to take children swimming anymore with a limited income. This is absolutely shocking as swimming is a life skill NOT a leisure pursuit.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Funding for curricular swimming will be retained.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Would like to know more about this	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	There is not enough information here to make an informed comment. What is the business model and arrangement with WL Leisure? How much is paid in rent or lease for the sports centre buildings that should still be owned by the Council? How much have they been subsidised so far? ; Edinburgh Leisure appears to be owned by Edinburgh City Council and is doing well, whereas WL Leisure is a separate company that is struggling. Maybe you should go back to this model or at least benchmark against it and look at best practice elsewhere.; ; But if the Council wants to encourage health and wellbeing do they not need to fund this?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Dangerous. This is an amazing service which keeps WL residents heathy.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	I feel it unlikely that West Lothian Leisure will have a long term future without Council financial support.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1K Review funding models in partnership with West Lothian Leisure	Details of replacement funding sources required, WLL provide a significant element of local fitness and team activities and would be significantly detrimental to the community should this cease to function.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I hope there are no forced redundancies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	many council contracts have a history of being over inflated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	That's good but as long as no redundancies as I have worked with the council for thirteen years bnow and can't afford to lose my job	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There are many council services which are vastly over staffed with incompetent employees, particularly in management. Reduce managers & make those higher up more responsible for more people, as is in the private sector.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Taxi etc should also be stopped	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Council's role is to administer the licensing schemes subject to the legislative requirements relevant to it.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing on some areas has already been cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There would appear to be too many levels of senior staff or senior management teams so I am sure those levels could be re-aligned.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Hybrid working means that some office space could now be rented out to give an income to the council. For example either some whole floors of WLC buildings could be rented out, or they could be run as co-working spaces, like The Melting Pot, which may bring about innovative partnership working opportunities too. This could also reduce West Lothian carbon emissions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It would have been helpful to have had proposals to consider regarding the specifics of how these savings of £6.2 million are likely to be achieved. Without this information, it is not possible to comment on the specifics of the proposals. However, in principle, I agree and accept that reductions in service delivery and staffing levels are likely to be required to deliver these savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Services can be delivered in a number of ways, as has been seen throughout the pandemic. Many services can be accessed on line/video etc. Therefore, is it really necessary to have so many buildings. In Bathgate, for example, St David House is across the road from the Partnership Centre and there is also a Social Work building within walking distance. Same in Livingston re Arrochar House and Civic Centre.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council can be contacted in person through our officers, by telephone via the contact centre and online through our website or via email. This range of options offers customers choice and we endeavour to deliver a high quality customer service experience across every channel.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Focus on reducing/eliminating top-heavy management structures and greedy, bureaucratic tender processes that leave council departments forced to use contractors and suppliers which are often seriously overpriced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Focus on reducing/eliminating top-heavy management structures and greedy, bureaucratic tender processes that leave council departments forced to use contractors and suppliers which are often seriously overpriced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Focus on reducing/eliminating top-heavy management structures and greedy, bureaucratic tender processes that leave council departments forced to use contractors and suppliers which are often seriously overpriced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree changes have to be made but terrible staff would have to lose their jobs for it to happen	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sadly technology is the future and efficiencies are created as a result jobs will go.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A good idea to consider staffing but start at the top high earners first and not the low earners.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Obviously this is your intention, but least impact high salaries should go first.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Effectively use of all staff at all times will deliver a better service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Don't target front line essential staff; Top tier positions - which are duplicated in a lot of cases need to be streamlined	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council is top heavy with very high salaries especially at the top. Start by making changes there.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Get rid of the over paid middle/higher management who don't offer much in the way of value for money. Talk to your staff who do the jobs and see what they think can be improved/done differently as they are the ones doing the job they will know.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Try having less top heavy management??? Streamline your own job systems? Perhaps conduct a 'strategic review' and get rid of the deadwood higher, overpaid Management thus saving millions in the process???	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Look at senior management not customer facing staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reducing staff is understandable not only with the council but also private sector. What should be taken into account is that when a job goes that work has to be done by someone else or divided up. This means other people taking on more work/responsibilities and this needs to be kept in mind and these people given a fair wage for the job they do	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I understand the need to 'balance the books' but we must do our best to provide for the most vulnerable in our area. To do this we need to lose high paid , top heavy staff, and invest in lower paid, well trained individuals, who will be available to support our young people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut senior management!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If it needs to happen then the savings have to be made. Talking from an education perspective, we do not get effective partnership from Active Schools. Clarity about the EPS role and involvement would be most helpful. I am not sure what support social policy offer. We need staff in schools and a central HR support team to support business and recruitment policy legal matters.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Provide the opportunity for Community to offer to pay more in Council Tax instead; at least for those who can afford to pay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would rather see a small council tax increase than loss of services directly impacting the customers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would prefer to pay more council tax than have services removed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Because the customer service has been so good on matters that are important to me, I've felt it reasonable, and I'd be concerned about any increases if customer service was not good, or staff laid off to make the savings required as then it doesn't seem fair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The savings proposals have developed with a view to maximising efficiency and maintaining performance and customer service. Any staffing efficiencies will be delivered through non replacement of vacant posts where possible and otherwise through the implementation of the Council's organisational change policy. The Council operates a no redundancy practice.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Please make sure that cuts are made to non essential services eg grass cutting, useless pot hole fixing that lasts a week etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Feel that during covid where there was no communal area grass cutting that having reduced service in this area would benefit budget and wildlife	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Being in business. Bring in good quality supported events for the town. No xmas market,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Appropriate strategy to be reviewed
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree. Remove middle managers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agreed, fire all the senior management first however as they are expensive and bring little benefit.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut the highest earners! Less people out of work and those who should have been able to save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A lot of management could be streamlined	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reducing staffing in non-statutory or non essential services should be a first point of call. Will staff be reduced via natural reduction, it is commonly stated the council has a non redundancy policy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Strong management and accountability of work will ensure a better workforce and output of work which will save money and allow a reduction of staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As previously stated, reducing staff is a short term saving. It will inevitably lead to staff leaving the council, unable to fill positions and staff absences. Unfortunately, there doesn't seem to be much in the way of understanding that the management within services is often overkill. If services can run without managers there then why are we not questioning the managers positions? Why are we so top heavy and why is it that the morale of staff is horrendous?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut the middle managers! And the people who mandatory e-learning modules - these could be centrally created by the Scottish govt. and shared with all the councils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Maybe think about reviewing management roles and getting rid of those who aren't working effectively.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A redesign of management levels might be a better option, along with more hybrid working and a potential 4 day working week.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Thin out the top, and keep more boots on the ground. A top heavy tree always blows down.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There is a strong need to look at the management structure and then all the way down - too many what seems to be admin/support for services roles, which have had there day. Frontline staff are capable of writing processes/procedures, taking on project work and affiliating it to what actually goes on at the frontline	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Get rid of the top brass who have no clue and out of touch with reality	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council struggles to keep up with present services so everything will be oiled up and only most essential services will be covered	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Necessary evil	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut out the chaff and save a fortune. Council needs to ensure all employees give value for money, if an employee isn't doing their job effectively or properly, ie just sits in their office, shirks their responsibilities, fails to complete tasks, solve problems or give advice in a timely and effective manner...get rid of them. I often wonder how some people got their jobs with the Council, especially many in promoted positions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Understandable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Fantastic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Never great losing staff, if it is dealt with via a pyramid system where most savings are taken from the top it would be the best way to deal with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Inevitable that eventually, regardless of the good will of the council, staffing levels would have to be considered as part of efficiencies measures.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I understand that reducing staff numbers will save a lot of money as long as the quality of the service is not affected. It will have to be implemented very carefully to ensure that the council has customers who need good quality support to access the services that they very much need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Always a good idea to revisit staffing and checking that staffing levels are effective is meeting the needs of the Council and that there are enough staff to provide the services for the people of West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Always a good idea to revisit staffing and checking that staffing levels are effective is meeting the needs of the Council and that there are enough staff to provide the services for the people of West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	sell off buildings to save money. Reducing staffing levels will reduce the service provided and put more people on benefits.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. As the largest element of the council's budget is staffing there will inevitably be reductions in staff levels however this will align of corporate priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Hoping that this will be managed as well as possible, and teams will not be left in uncertainty for too long. Cuts sadly inevitable but feel we can learn lessons from previous rounds to handle this better.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Makes sense to cut jobs that no longer need doing or that can be done more efficiently	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No compulsory redundancies is important if we want WL to continue to thrive but streamlining where possible is sensible if it does not weaken key areas like education, health, bin collections	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Restructuring is common practice across most industries	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Hopefully this mostly is achieved by staff leaving or retiring.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	staffing levels, in general, are very 'short-termist' in any organisation, only to be filled by expensive contractors later on. Appropriate analysis must be carried out and ratified to ensure that is the correct route. Efficiency savings should be identified and acted upon elsewhere, by improving technology, increasing revenue in other areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Start at the top and work down, Do we really need as many councillors, managers etc to run the services? Too many top level people in the council taking a wage for little return.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not ideal but needs must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am concerned that increasingly staff are asked to do more which is resulting in a loss of quality of work and demoralisation of staff. Use of technology should be the primary method of reducing the burden of work on staff and providing residents with a better service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	People are your greatest resource. If it's at all possible, identify staff members who do not fit the criteria or do not manage their job role efficiently. Hard working staff should be recognised, jobs shouldn't be given depending on who you know.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As always when money needs to be saved staff are the first to be looked into. However it must be noted that staff are employed in the most cost effective ways without a loss of vital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reducing staffing levels will inevitably result in poorer services or the cessation of some services. And redundancies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	cut half of your top bosses	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In my opinion the council is over staffed therefore cutting staffing costs in the long term will be good, in the short term this will cost in redundancies/renumeration etc. which needs to be taken into account.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Care must be taken in the balance of savings and the number of staff required to deliver services. Close scrutiny should be made of all non core areas which receive funding. Green issues should be closely examined to ensure value for money, Waste such as the 20mph restrictions should not be repeated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would support an increase in council tax over reductions in services. The proposals given seem to have greatest impact on the vulnerable in our communities, particularly children. Reducing services at the front line level whether through education or welfare support will have detrimental effect on the community as a whole. I would be interested to see how staffing can be streamlined further up the chain. What are the proposals to streamline middle management particularly within education? Do all the management and officer roles have a direct impact on the teaching and learning of pupils in West Lothian?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Try to make sure the correct staff cuts are not made to front line services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Redundancy is a part of work - go for it!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am sorry to say this but within the council (not education) there are still a lot of times that there are 3 people for a job that would take 2. For example there is still a lot of a hang back attitude within council workers where more could be done in the day than is being done eg. Manual workers. Some years ago my nephew started with council but left because he said his joiner colleagues said he was working too fast.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is fine if you are getting rid of the fat cats at the top that are getting paid way too much money and claim way too much in expenses and not the people that actually do the work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would be interested in how much of saving can be made through retirement and voluntary redundancy rather than than job losses in our county.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Having worked with various council bodies and departments always felt there were too many people doing the same job or double checking who was doing what or to many layers in management structure. If it was a private or corporate business it would not be run as it is. On the other side though it is never easy to see people lose their jobs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think that staffing reduction should only happen through natural wastage or ending temporary contracts. I would not like to see mandatory redundancies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A council needs staff to move forward and by investing in your work force should be essential not a luxury. Review the big management salaries and make savings there before you review and cut staffing cost on the ground level.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It seems an easier take to manage staff at the lower end of the scale where staff tend to have more impact on our customers. In my opinion, the greater savings with minimal impact would come from reducing bloated middle and upper management who tend to earn much more than others and who have less of an impact on our customer directly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Some of this saving must come from reducing staff in some areas of the business. There will also be some natural wastage through retirements and staff taking up positions elsewhere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree to reduction in cost measures a necessity however children's should not be penalised and safety, security, wellbeing and education should be maintained to a high standard. Teaching support staff numbers should not be reduced as schools already operate within a wide adult to child ratio and reducing adult support throughout educational facilities opens doors to reducing and affecting their security, safety, wellbeing and education. High standards within education facilities need to be maintained.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would agree that staffing, particularly senior management budgets need to be challenged along with general staffing levels to ensure the council tax payer is getting value for money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There is a real problem here. I understand that people need homes, but you cannot stuff every available space in the county with all these new builds that benefit no one (except those who have the money to buy these homes) and have nursery and education provision the same, as in no new schools or nurseries. People who move into the area need schools and nurseries for their children and not ones built in the middle of nowhere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to providing appropriate development in line with national planning policy and the development plan.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Good luck!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Only by natural wastage	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No objection	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cool	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Excellent, this cost saving of £6.2M is much needed, please proceed with these changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This needs to be done	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not ideal but needs must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unfortunately this is inevitable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This contradicts what you are trying to do with Education by cutting Teachers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Good idea. Need to be more efficient working model	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sounds like a reasonable approach	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Highlights the fact that all councils are facing cuts on top of cuts which can only be avoided by proper funding through Council Tax and general taxation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce non statutory services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Remove pointless Christmas decorations and other waste less spending and you won't need to do this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Doesn't really sound OK but not sure there is much choice!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Inevitably this needs to be looked at but do have concerns.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree that need to review.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is necessary and " do able "	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Too heavy service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sounds necessary	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Supportive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sensible as long as changes are well planned and delivered	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff turnover has to be a priority. You have to make sure the new generation is given a chance. Quite clear that there are too many senior positions held by people who should be retired by now.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce staff levels in middle management significantly and top managers salaries	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is severe - reasonable packages must be offered for redundancies and unions must be consulted at all times. Keep the best workers and reduce the deadwood. Re-structure the management tiers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	reduce management tier	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	simmalear servises together	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Bring similar services to work together	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	reduce management tiers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Bring similar services to work together	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	reduce management tiers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Bring similar services to work together	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	reduce management tiers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	reduce management	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	bring services together	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	bring similar services together	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	reduce management tiers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing levels are bad as there are too many higher management, and not enough ground services (people on the streets) it's not there's too many staff just too many doing not enough but getting paid more than they should	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce high salaried management and keep the front line staff who deliver the majority of services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	reduce staff numbers at the top,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think that a review of staffing and management would be a good idea - there are a lot of layers in the council and 3 depute chief executives - can this be streamlined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would be confident that WLC could reduce staff numbers in certain areas without impacting service. It's a question of identifying who does what carefully.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If staffing levels are wrong - reduce staffing levels	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The staffing should be addressed from the top down. Do we really need the amount of staff at the top end??	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council is top heavy at the moment I think the amount of team leaders and supervisors could be reduced to save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would imagine many office-based/admin/finance roles could be replaced by technology and more efficient use of resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Needs must but concerned that the most disadvantaged in the community will suffer the impact	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Savings could be made if some buildings were closed and staff worked from home - no energy costs and no one having to open up or close buildings - there could be a small building used for clients to attend and a rota for staff to work there	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council need to prioritise food banks.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council supports food banks and the Food Network.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I agree cost savings are difficult to make and staffing is an obvious cost to consider. ; We all have to accept changes must be made to allow for the budget savings to be made. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The savings sound great but I fear there will also be a drastic reduction in service provision in these proposals with no impact on council tax reduction for ordinary citizens, less for more is not a great selling point.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Changes to staffing levels seems impossible to avoid. There's also staff attitude to pay levels, and of course most staff are averse to real cuts, meaning that certain vacancies don't get filled.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Maybe one thing we agree on cut the bloated self serving public sector.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It is difficult to be happy with job losses but unfortunately it seems it will be necessary in order for the council to remain financially viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	should be achieved but not in a way that it badly affects the residents of west lothian	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sensible streamlining of council management and staff is appropriate as long as the mid/senior management is also streamlined as more cost savings are available here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Well sadly due to Covid 19 there are plenty of other job opportunities available as sad as it is to see people having to move to new jobs, I feel this is inevitable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	By all means, I support the cutting of some staffing for efficiency savings. However, these cuts should not be at the customer facing side of the council. Education should have staff in schools increased and promoted Civic Centre staff cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I agree with this proposal as long as it continues ; ; to support the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	These funding gaps are ridiculous! services need to be properly funded by Scottish government. We cannot cut staffing any more. If there is no option to make the savings then I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I agree.....cut chief executives....and directors....far too many chiefs and not enough Indians	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As long as it does not affect the front line delivery of services (including teachers) then this sounds reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agreed, but not in Education. We need to help children succeed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Achieve it by natural wastage if you can - it's a big organisation there must be significant turnover.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes, as long as this does not cut the quality of IT service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agreed but no one should be redundant in this difficult times and pay reduction for earning more than £50000 per year must be supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Headcount reductions are inevitable and I'd expect that excellent retraining and redeployment options are offered and considered. Unsure how many staff working for WLC are actually West Lothian residents, will staff cuts impact unemployment in our county and what's the financial trade off of this?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Recognised - although it raises some concern about the possibility of many staff losing jobs (or retiring?). No problem with staff reductions where it makes sense, but who becomes responsible for there being more people looking for work? Is this just the council pushing people onto the state?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The use of automations and new technologies will be vital in making sure any reduction in staffing numbers does not lead to excess work being added to already overworked colleagues.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Raise Council Tax by a small amount and watch the deficit decrease drastically.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Think the council needs to consider additional increases in council tax to bridge this gap. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am not sure in what areas council can reduce staffing levels but the most important is that all areas continue to work efficiently for their customers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Many staffing efficiencies could be found but well trained, loyal staff can be hard to recruit. Think carefully about the efficiencies that are made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	An organisation's biggest asset is its staff. ; ; Hopefully staffing reduction will be by "natural wastage" by retiral and leavers to other jobs out with the Council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Appreciate your position is difficult but this will need to be handled very carefully.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sad but understandable. If core staffing levels are reduced ,please just keep the public informed of the changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut costs by cutting staff, there will be plenty of areas that could be combined to be more effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I have no skin in the game here but my view is you are better to let go 1 manager on 100k than 5 staff on 20k.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date but continues to investigate savings and efficiencies in management structures.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It is shocking but every other sector is in the same boat.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The use of Nursing Guild to cover shifts in the care we provide, this company charges excessive costs to cover shifts, they then have carers leave WLC to work on the Nursing Guild as our carers have Nursing Guild carers expose their hourly rates which are much greater than WLC carers rate. In previous companies I have worked there was a clause that the agencies could not employ an employee from the organisation hiring the guild / agency and if they did so they were served a penalty of £2000 per person they employed unless there was a lapse of 6 month from the carer working for the hiring company and then applying to the agency. This could help recover costs but also retain staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If realised - well done	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If the services mentioned previously are stream-lined then it follows that less staff will be required. There would be some 'natural wastage' due to retirement	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes yes yes- cut the gardening staff, the ones who actually finish at 11am, hiding their vans in private housing estates till 4.30pm.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	some savings could be made by reducing subsidies to train passengers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	General savings may be saved through public transport instead of paying subsidies to companies from outside West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This needs to be in conjunction with skills development and the creation of new jobs. Or we end up a location of mass unemployment. Or just a giant commuter location.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As long as the quality and availability of the council's service are not compromised then that is okay. Key areas such as mental health service funding and grants should not be compromised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Providing staff with a better opportunity to input and shape service delivery in line with a VS/ER offering may lead to further savings made by the people being impacted and not just at top level.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cost savings could be made by not allowing council staff to take council vehicles home at night and used as a pick up service for other council members to get to and from work. ; As covid is no longer impacting how people work - should the council be looking at all staff returning to work from office full time and not hybrid? buildings are open 5 days per week and the cost of running these are high with the new increases in energy bills so it would make more sense to the council pocket to have everyone in the offices and take all furniture out from storage and returned to the offices as the cost for storage of the furniture would be a saving ; ; although this will not directly impact staffing costs it is a unnecessary cost, having staff back in the office productivity could be reviewed and potentially some part time roles would no longer be necessary as the work could be picked up by the teams in the offices	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This should be limited and a redundancy scheme implemented for voluntary redundancies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Could the council commit to a retraining scheme for displaced workers, perhaps working with local businesses and large corporates to identify roles and skill sets required and retraining towards those and facilitating a transition from council employment to new employment without a period of unemployment, as much as possible? Adding to unemployment seems ultimately counter-productive for the council and society in general.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing is at an all -time low. Maybe lose a few managers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	making staff more flexible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Streamline staff more flexible based use of staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I will never understand how less staff can make a better service. Yes a good over haul is needed but communication face to face is vital . The council is already struggling to deliver an efficient service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Savings at the expense of both customer service levels and staffing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I understand the council do have to make savings and cuts to close the budget gap however I believe the council is not taking the correct approach. Focusing on reducing staff numbers as well as cutting education and social policy services is not the answer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps those at the top of the council pyramid would consider taking a pay cut - this would reduce costs and lose some of the need for others down the ladder to lose their jobs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not sure where savings can be made in terms of the workforce as most are working in highly stressful environments and covering work not previously undertaken by them. Staff are a precious resource and should not be discounted lightly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	as stated previously you are talking redundancy layoffs failure to replace. This will impact on those left through mental health issues loss of working time which becomes a false economy. the council provides a great service to the community but somewhere something or someone is going to break due to work demands stress mental health. we cannot keep going providing this high level of service with fewer and fewer staff. we are losing out experienced staff as they move away for better conditions by way of workloads staffing levels etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not good for anyone. Services will then be affected and probably reduced, people will lose jobs and could struggle to find new ones, especially at the moment and the unemployment rate in West Lothian will go up.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not sure how many more staff can be cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing is already low. Unsure where staffing could be cut any further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The above spells out that you wish to pay employees off or reduce employees working for WLC. Stop talking about employees as a drain. They are the greatest asset. If you cut jobs and wages to people this will be a direct impact on the local economy and local businesses. People families will stop spending locally. Direct hit in a very negative way.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	How do u aim to reduce Staff? By how many? What will redundancy offer be? Disgusting to hear talk of reducing your greatest asset.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Tough times for everyone and getting tougher by the sound of it, I think it is perhaps the time to consider my future with the organisation as my daily role is becoming increasingly difficult - I doubt that I am alone in this view - there are other jobs out there that are not as difficult as this one and it only looks like it will get harder. I used to be very positive in my approach to my job and was proud to work for this organisation but I cannot say that I feel the same way now, the job is no longer about putting our customer's needs first, it is about ticking the boxes and doing the things that we "must" do and not much else and with little thought of the impact this has on the staff and managers who are left to deliver the service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unfortunately this will be disastrous as this would lead to staff stress, stress leads to sick leave causing the council more in the long term. I have worked in the care industry for almost 30 years now and unfortunately nothing has changed regarding cut backs and reduced staffing to save funds which leads to staff leaving. Staff leaving then leads to recruitment, training . More job responsibilities with cut back to hourly rate along may look good on paper but in reality this does not work. I believe this has been the case in the past with cut back to save monies and it has not been successful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff cuts should be an absolute last resort	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	so less workers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing levels are already low to service the community and deliver a decent standard level. The county has become unsightly and poorly kept, it is not a nice place to live anymore. People lose interest in keeping the place nice.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There are already huge issues (particularly within schools) over staffing. This causes huge workload issues for staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Real concern that if staffing levels are cut down too much there will not be enough staff left to adequately staff services. Concern that the staff that are left will find their work situations too stressful to manage and an increase in staff sickness will follow.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I understand this may be necessary but I don't think these cuts should be made to the most vital services such as schools as they are already facing staff shortages and a reduced staffing budget for schools will lead to attainment levels dropping and schooling becoming unsustainable for current staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Education and Early years won't survive a cut in staffing. We are exhausted and I'm sure sickness levels reflect this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	people want to chat to people and have face to face appointments, humans cannot be replaced by online robots.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council can be contacted in person through our officers, by telephone via the contact centre and online through our website or via email. This range of options offers customers choice and we endeavour to deliver a high quality customer service experience across every channel.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Savings in staffing costs might on paper appear to be a saving but this generally doesn't help when people want to speak to a human as household bills go up e.g., phone bills trying to get a hold of a human to talk to, I take an AL day off work if I have to make a few calls to businesses as it takes approx. 45mins to speak to a human and West Lothian Council is one of the worst.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council can be contacted in person through our officers, by telephone via the contact centre and online through our website or via email. This range of options offers customers choice and we endeavour to deliver a high quality customer service experience across every channel.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I have a building where tenants were promised new kitchens 4 years ago and need new windows as they blow inwards when it is windy, water pours in through windows and the plaster is soaking wet, built in 1997, our communal laundry equipment is 11 years old and is forever breaking down that's how efficient your ten-year programme is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	If you are responsible for a building then please raise your concerns with the relevant internal management so that this can be looked into for resolution.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The service across the board, whether it be in the maintenance, Care Sector etc is not meeting its targets as it stands so further efficiencies will be crippling to the local community. The majority of staff are already burnt out due to having to cover staffing shortages in every area, for little or no recognition. Tenants can complain all they like, I myself have done so but the repair has still not been done.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The service levels cannot possibly maintained with reduced staffing. The impact on staff and the community will be significant	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff delivering key front-line services must be retained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This will result in poorer service to public.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Why are the council spending over 4million on buying properties for shared living temp tenancies when the ones we have at present are difficult to let, no one wants to live in them, difficult to allocate and there are not enough TSO to support them. This is the biggest wast of money and could be spent better elsewhere. Ask your staff on their views. This won't reduce the homeless hotel budget most of the clients in hotel wouldn't be suitable for shared living. Make better homeless decisions and investigate cases properly. Stop being so risk adverse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As there is continued demand for social housing in West Lothian, the council will continue to progress opportunities to increase accommodation for those seeking social housing across West Lothian. Shared spaces are one of the housing options made available to homeless applicants and provides an applicant with accommodation whilst their longer term housing needs are being assessed and/or accommodation is being sourced.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	How much money has been spent on new buckets and talking buckets which i am sure we dont need that epuld have saved thousands of pounds by not bringing green bins and talking bins into force	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The provision of new litter bins was funded from a different funding source and not revenue budgets.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You are building more homes now than ever before, this "gap" could easily be filled by either extracting more from the builders or looking at the bandings for these properties.; This is not an issue	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Maximise income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. Developer contributions to be reviewed in line with guidance when applicable.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Do not take full services off the vulnerable, only cut things a little bit.of each. Ask companies rather than chuck food away to give it away to those in need. People are suffering with mental health and I feel its due to the way things are in life.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You cannot deliver a service with a member of staff doing it. How many Councillors are there v's refuse collectors?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing is already at too low a level to sustain.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is unfortunate and disappointing - job loses make West Lothian a less attract place to live and work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Don't agree with staffing cuts, should be a last resort as your services would suffer and why would someone want to work for you if their position could be in danger in the next budget!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	With a more permanent shift to home and hybrid working the council could further reduce its office buildings and associated costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As West Lothian's largest employer I would be extremely worried if staff reductions were through compulsory redundancies. This would lead to increased levels of deprivation for many of West Lothian's citizens.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think less of the ideas above at the moment. ; Spend less on technology for services it won't help;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Our customer interactions and feedback clearly show that people are increasing choosing to use our digital services. This offers customers greater choice and flexibility in the way that they access services and we are working to increase our use of technology across the council and improve the efficiency of our processes and response/resolution times for customers.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I feel that staffing in schools is important and there already seems to be job issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I'm sure that there are many opportunities to reduce staffing costs but not hitting the areas where staff are the most vital resource, like schools. More support and staff desperately required not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There are other services within West Lothian council where staffing cuts would have less impact than education. Education is a vital area and all staffing from facilities services to head teachers and everything in between is critical to provide children with a quality education- one that is their right to receive. Education is already under pressure for attainment to ensure learners are destined for positive experiences in later life. Reducing staffing can only have a detrimental effect on children and their future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There are other services within West Lothian Council where staffing cuts would have less impact than education. Education is a vital area and all staffing from facilities services to head teachers and everything in between is critical to provide children with a quality education, one that is their right to receive. Education is already under pressure for attainment to ensure learners are destined for positive experiences in later lives. Reducing staff can only have a detrimental effect on children and their future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There are other services within West Lothian Council where staffing cuts would have less impact than Education. Education is a vital area and all staffing from facilities services to Head teachers and everything in between are critical to provide children with a quality education - one that is their right to receive! Education is already under pressure for attainment to ensure learners are destined for positive experiences in later life, reducing staffing can only have a detrimental effect children and their future,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It is very worrying that there will be many staff within the council with job losses and with the cost of living crisis going on. Reduced services not good either especially as tax payers are contributing towards this so want to see where there money is getting put towards.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not good news at a time when people need their jobs more than ever.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am disgust by the plans.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So more people will end up relying on over stretched Food banks!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not a good idea, staff are needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	not a good idea staff are needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There are staffing areas within the education that can not be replaced by machines or technologies. Human connection is vital for children's ability to learn and become resilient.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing costs this reads like staff are a drain. ; Rethink attitude here they are the biggest asset its a fact. ; Too many good workers leave as they are tired of threats every day of cuts and they are scraping by in silence.; Leaner meaner services very basic this is not an award winning local authority. Sad this is as it used to be in years gone by West Lothian was benched marked against.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sometimes staff are the best resource you can pay for, not sure this is the best way to reduce costs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Less staff= double the work volume, job losses and stress	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A 15%+ saving on staffing costs. I think this will generate an impact on the services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unsure where staffing could be cut as services are already stretched and staff in place as already working to a very high level and pressure. Would reducing staffing not create more work for the staff left in posts?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff levels have already been reduced and remaining staff already cover additional work. If staff are to be reduced further, duties of the remaining staff must be reviewed and wages increased to reflect additional duties - to retain experienced staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	From what I can see dealing with other service areas, staffing cuts have already made for a lot of outsourcing or stress for those left. I suspect unions will have issues and strike action will be inevitable if this is carried out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cuts to asset management functions are storing up problems for the future. We can expect road condition to drop and larger sums will be required in future to maintain the roads.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's constrained capital resources will be focussed on maintenance of existing assets to the highest level possible within available funding. Asset management principles are used to prioritise limited resources.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Difficult to reduce staff where staff numbers are already at a stage whereby no new staff are being being replaced. This will have a detrimental impact upon morale, productivity and likely sick levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Many council staff members are struggling with the lack of staff. Staff are undertaking more work than they are employed to do and are not receiving any additional income for this. A reduction in staff will lead to a further increased workload causing staff to be more unsatisfied and possibly want a rise in pay. If the staff receive a pay rise this may not be a problem, but will the amount saved still be worth cutting staff for?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Maintaining current staffing levels in schools and social services needs to be a priority. Any reduction in teaching or social services staff will have a huge negative impact on the children in West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You can only cut staff so much before it has the opposite affect - the retained staff should not have extra pressures put on them due to shortage of staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In my own department we are already short staffed and finding it hard to meet demand at times. I feel that this is the general consensus across all departments in the council. Any further reductions in staff levels are likely to lead to very low staff morale, absence due to ill health and stress and ultimately losing good staff. This coupled with the cost of living crisis would be a very detrimental move by the Council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Education should be the priority and should not be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In a time of a cost of living crisis I think this is incredibly untasteful to take away peoples jobs and main source of income when finances will already be stretched. I don't see how this aligns with the council values at all. No wonder staff do not feel valued. I certainly don't.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think WLC is performing well at the moment with reduced staff numbers! It will severely struggle to maintain this level of service with reduced staff numbers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduction in staff will mean reduction in quality of service and the ability to provide a functional unit. i would hope that the majority of this would be staff who are retiring leaving etc and not compulsory redundancies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Our department is already understaffed and under paid for the services we provide.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. Pay levels are agreed nationally by trade unions.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If these cut backs in staffing are from senior positions, all well and good, but the on the ground staff are stretched so thinly at the moment that any further cuts would be unmanageable and lead to an increase in staff absence and stress due to massively increased workload.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing must not be reduced to the extent that services are no longer offered or are of poor quality.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There is little enough staff as it is, this leads to the service delivery not being as it should be. Staff cuts will only make this worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More staffing cuts, everything automated, dnr even get a call back when you request one. Council services reduced and quality of work not as expected. What do you expected when staff have this hanging over their heads year in year out. No job stability and living in fear of the next round of cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council's five year approach provides certainty to staff regarding their service areas. This prevents uncertainty about their jobs which would not be the case if the council introduced an annual approach to budget savings.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes that was made clear. That will of couse lead to 1 person doing rhe job of 2... could lead to people leaving and services breaking down. I dont supportnit but underatnd it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It's quite frightening to see the job loss and resource loss to our communities in black and white	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	This just saddens me greatly. Staff need their jobs more than ever and the services we deliver being lost will definitely impact the reputation of WLC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Good luck with these staffing cuts, you may aswell make these offices part time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	It's hard enough already to get hold of an actual person?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	SSO's and CFA's are a huge part of running Community Centre's and Partnership Centre in this area they are already struggling with staffing levels if this is cut anymore then this would not be a good customer service to the Community or to Management Committees.; At present the majority of the buildings are run by Management Committees which saves the Council on Rates on the buuilding's each year	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The savings proposals have developed with a view to maximising efficiency and maintaining performance and customer service. Any staffing efficiencies will be delivered through non replacement of vacant posts where possible and otherwise through the implementation of the Council's organisational change policy. The Council operates a no redundancy practice.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The previous ideas on food caddies cost a massive amount and was scrapped to then add the green bins cost another massive amount, so ideas like this are not cost effective	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yet more staff being disposed of, sad times indeed. Take a long hard look at what if any service you will be able to continue to provide. I'm struggling to see what's continuing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not ideal cutting staff at a time where people on are on the breadline! More people will need to rely on benefits and not be able to afford mortgages etc at a time where there are very few council houses available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In a time of financial and economic challenge, jobs must be protected where possible. In the instances where this is not possible, the 'cost' to WL will still be apparent but rather than through salaries, through the significant demand on services and the subsidies/benefits required thus leading to an unpredictable and unforecast cost and pressure on services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am concerned that service delivery in schools will be impaired due to staffing reductions. Pupils with additional support needs in main stream settings are increasing and the management of this and supporting these pupils will be difficult to achieve with more reductions in staffing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cutting jobs is not a cost effective method and will leave your services in dire state	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff are already stretched, removal of staff would only increase the workload to an unmanageable level and have a severe knock on effect within schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There isn't enough staff already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There are many services already struggling to recruit and when agency / outside staff are used this causes more problems. Reducing staff in areas that are needed but not essential services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Making staff unemployed does not really help society overall, better to keep them employed but make sure they are doing useful jobs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Do not cut any more funding from Youth and Childrens work. The service has already removed provision to children in P1 & P2. If you don't have contact from an early age it's harder to engage with them when older.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It would be very disappointing to see a further reduction in frontline public services. You only have to look around to see the neglect which is creeping in. Dirty streets, overgrown foliage on narrow footpaths, lack of grass cutting on the approach to road junctions and roundabouts. The latter is a road safety issue and it's been disappointing for me to see the issue getting worse. Accidents will happen with danger to life due to poor sight lines directly involving overgrown verges etc at these junctions. We all know and accept savings need to be made but it should not be at the cost of road safety or personal safety due to fear of walking along areas which are overgrown.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I take it this will mean even more redundancies with the remaining staff having to pick up the extra work. There is no point in reducing staff levels to such a point that people will struggle to access services. Council staff have been cut to the bone as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This sounds like cutting staffing? I think understaffing the council is a terrible idea and disagree with this action	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Department are already strained with staff shortages across all levels causing stress to staff then a cycle of sickness because of this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	this isn't good, this will mean more people looking for jobs and generally less working roles available in the community as a whole	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As noted before this is not acceptable. The remaining staff will be over worked, stressed and under paid for what is expected from them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cutting staff will reduce services and in schools staffing is already not enough so will lead to teachers leaving the profession.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not a good idea, people need jobs and we need services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As I have mentioned previously reducing staffing in schools would break a system that is already suffering greatly. I am fully aware of a number of teachers who are considering leaving the profession due to the unrealistic expectations and a feeling that with the situation will not improve. If you add these proposals in to the mix you are risking the loss of highly qualified staff and replacing with unqualified staff which is a complete failure to our children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Human beings are the most expensive commodity. It's why eating at a restaurant is so expensive. But we are not a restaurant. We are a public service. How has it got to this? Where the only way for the council to make ends meet is to cut the pay and jobs of the staff who live and/or work and contribute. What has the role of a council become if it has to actively make decisions that will make things worse for people instead of better? I am sorry for the utter negativity in my responses and appreciate the challenges you face, but it is hard not to respond in such a way. What will we face in ten years after all these cuts?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	There are no proposals to reduce pay which is determined at a national level. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff are also active participants in communities and like the rest of us spend; staff are also tax payers and advocates for West Lothian Council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Any change to service delivery would be detrimental	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not a good idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not sure how this will work as in some areas of the council it already seems understaffed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Do not support as WLC is already very lean organisation	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	waste management collection should be overhauled (increased collection hours, further recycling provided [e.g. glass, textiles], more incentives to limit landfill waste	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Getting rid of teachers isn't something anyone wants. Cutting from this budget will cause more harm than good, leaving children with less quality learning and teaching time and many teachers out of work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Some services including children's services are already dealing with more challenges than ever before. If the council is prepared for staff to be hurt and children to have a service that is not Promise promoting then go ahead and cut staff and service provision in that area. But expect a backlash from it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There appears to be a number of ground workman doing a one man job. 2 peapole to empty 1 street bin? this needs to be addressed possibly shorter day with not as much breaks?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Very sad to hear that WLC will be adding to the unemployment in the area rather than helping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Don't agree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is worrying to say the least	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Very difficult to comment without more detail. Very concerning how the Council can continue to deliver services efficiently and effectively if losing staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Against	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cutting staff will make for a big cut in services, not good for people of West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As posts are not being filled, staff are required to pick up extra work, and this is not being recognised by managers. this is having a detrimental impact on waiting lists and workers mental health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is a huge deficit to be balanced through staffing costs. It is concerning which services will be impacted and how such huge reductions can be achievable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing levels are already low, further cuts will put further pressure on the remaining work force, this will lead to an increase in staff absence through stress	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	service delivery in west Lothian is nearly non existent. i would imagine that if it is reduced anymore people will not be happy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	some departments within WLC have been pushed to the max over the past 2 years under extreme pressure and most without any sick leave. Cutting staff back further would create more stress and further sickness	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Jobs being unavailable is not good	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Front line workers are thin on the ground and we are top heavy in management	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We have been asked to comment on council cuts year on year for as long as I can remember. Staff have to fight every year for pay increases but had also been told they are essential workers throughout the pandemic. Essential workers except when it comes to pay. More cuts will mean more pressure on those who are left as the workload increases but the staff numbers are slashed. Many good staff will be lost due to this continual pressure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Personally, i don't think that the council can cut any services as the services provided are essential. However, a cut to higher paid manager positions could make a decent saving,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reducing staffing will impact on many of West Lothian families adding more to our vulnerable list with a reduced, realigned service delivery for them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As a resident and employee in West Lothian for the past 15 years I have seen a decline in services due to cuts. Buildings have closed and we face reduced services all over. There have never been redundancies and now it seems this is the next thing to go.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The services are already short of staff which means already much longer waiting times, if the council make up the short fall by getting rid of staff this will make things worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Strongly disagree with this idea. Cost of living increases are reaching the highest levels seen for decades with a recession looming. This would mean uncertainty and income loss for council staff at a time when stability is needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Once again staffing levels are hit and affects the work population of west lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Public facing education and cleansing should be safe guarded.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The services are already short of staff which means already much longer waiting times, if the council make up the short fall by getting rid of staff this will make things worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	i for one will not be happy to pay my council tax bill for a worse level of service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	dont like the sound of this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	While understanding that the council is expected to make savings, in my view there is no scope for staffing reductions without a subsequent detrimental impact on services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This will reduce service of maintaining council houses. I do not think this is achievable on old properties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to maintain residential and non-residential properties within its portfolio. As a social landlord tenant rents, combined with grant funding, provide millions of pounds of investment each year in maintenance and capital programme upgrades.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Please don't reduce bin collections any further and please continue to salt the roads to make them as safe as possible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Charge large builders more money and force them to provide facilities !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to providing appropriate development in line with national planning policy and the development plan.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It is concerning that services that provide support for the most vulnerable children, young people and families will be cut, when there are no other services providing these services. ; We need to provide support early on, to build capacity and resilience in children, young people and their families so that they do not require support from tier 3 and tier 4 agencies.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Social care for disabled and older people reduced? Its at bare minimum already but no square box to put what I thought so had to put this in this box.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Keep the staff who are needed to do important roles and agree to. Laying off staff not required	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Don't cut front line staff, any staffing cuts should come from back office or reduction in managers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff reductions will mean service reduction as staff and services are already over stretched.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This should be the last area to be targeted for savings. Council resources in this area are already clearly stretched	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Quality of service will diminish.; ; The service may become incapable of meeting need. ; ; If this happens, more new staff will then need to be recruited and trained etc and will lead to more, not less, finding challenges for budgets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Less staff will mean a poorer service provision, and more people out of work. Short term narrow minded approach.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Do not reduce staffing levels. Look at council tax bands. The banding system is out of date. Many households now living in valuable properties but still on low council tax bands.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I completely disagree with this. West Lothian Council needs to be investing in it's current staff to deliver the best possible services and outcomes to the community.; The impact of this will be clearly visible and not in a positive way. Please reconsider this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I really don't want any cuts in council staffing and services.; I know this is not reality though. Pecos costs so much waste of money, local buying is much more cost effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It is not a surprise that staffing costs are the biggest expense. The council should value its staff and keep them engaged and not indulge in the false economy of more technology that is bound to fail. The only staff cuts should be at the very top.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We absolutely do not support changes that reduce the amount of teachers or teaching assistants in any West Lothian school.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Understand that cuts have to be made but feel that our children's future are at risk if the cuts involve our schools. Children have suffered enough with all the closures due to the pandemic - enough is enough our children deserve better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Teaching and services for children within school should not be cut. Find savings within administrative staffing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	you cant really reduce the workforce much more and expect the same levels	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Reducing staffing levels will reduce the costings initially, however people are then working over and above their remit leading to higher levels of stress and sickness.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Shouldn't cut successful areas	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	We need to maintain staffing as much as possible to deliver high quality service to our communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	I understand the necessity to reduce staff numbers due to the amount of budget consumed by their cost, however, many service areas are already under a lot of pressure to deliver on projects and commitments with staff not being replaced when leaving resulting in other staff having to pick up extra work and resulting in extra stress. I have witnessed a number of colleagues have to take time off work due to stress and reducing staff levels in certain services would only increase this issue. This action will be unavoidable but will need to be carefully planned to ensure that staff are not put under even more pressure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Most Officers we have worked with are stretched already, are trying their very best to provide a service in challenging times, worried about the impact of further job losses and the impact these will bring!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Given the staff are the councils biggest asset, and recruiting into essential roles has been a challenge, especially frontline low paid roles. I struggle to see where these savings will come from. Any reductions to staffing across the council will have a seriously significant impact on service delivery however I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. Recruitment is an ongoing challenge for the council at all levels - front line, management and professional.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Staffing levels as you know are already very low, the morale of the employees is also low. for my role, looking through all the other cost savings, they mostly state "greater use of technology" what does this mean, I can already ready see, really good council systems being offloaded to the cloud, I don't think people understand how good some council systems are and how expensive compared to local systems they really are. I think the pressures of cost savings, and the ethos of technology will solve all our problems is flawed. We are not making best use of council resources.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Are you suggesting reducing staff numbers? I don't think it would be fair to make staff redundant in the current cost of living crisis. I would hope you look at all options to reduce staff, like recruitment freeze, reducing contractors and the impact of natural staff lost through retirement.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cutting jobs should not be considered. If unemployment raises this will place pressure on health and social care, as well as benefits	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We need the staff we have! They provide a valuable and needed service! Don't change it!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	there is very little service delivery and no housing officers, resources are barely skeleton crew, these services an access to housing officers are needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council delivers a tremendous amount of services for customers each year. For example the repairs teams complete over 100,000 jobs per year and the housing staff successfully manage over 14,000 properties covering a variety of issues. While the council would prefer to maximise staffing resource for customers if there is no budget for this then reductions must be made
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Libraries must not be closed or offer reduced times	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council has a legislative requirement to provide library facilities and will review the most effective means of delivering this service, taking account of demand and opportunities to access activities which currently take place in libraries from other community facilities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Libraries must not be closed or offer reduced times ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council has a legislative requirement to provide library facilities and will review the most effective means of delivering this service, taking account of demand and opportunities to access activities which currently take place in libraries from other community facilities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No more cuts in the future	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Generally happy with council services - no more cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You are not saving by charging silly money for domestic uplifts as people fly tip then you have to spend more money collecting it , same as having to book a space for tip and you have wasted money on more silly bins , you had a food wast bin. Now you don't want to use it so that's money wasted , now it's separate paper and plastic and a tiny grey bin	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	However, our house over looks Holmes Park, where their are numerous council trees, which have been allowed to grow to horrendous heights so the leaves from them all gather in my garden. Along, with my neighbour who again has allowed her trees to grow so tall. If it wasn't for all these trees I would not need a brown bin. It feels unfair to penalise me for emptying g a brown bin, which I would not need if it wasn't for all the over hanging trees. Surely, their should be provisions made for people like me!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Inprint - the council's printer - are expensive. Probably around 4 times more expensive than an external online supplier. They also aren't able to provide a lot of print given the limitations they have with hardware, so they need to outsource to an external printer. Inprint mainly act as the middle people. This results in more expense and long wait times for print. Would it not be better if Op Service moved the staff into priority areas - waste, roads - fly tipping etc and ceased a print service? This would also result in cost savings for internal services that are forced to go to Inprint.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Home recycling services such as weekly bin collections must not be reduced any further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No cuts should be made to services that impact peoples safety. E.g. street lighting, delaying repairs & maintenance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This will have a major impact on all of the councils services - you cannot just expect the staff that remain to just manage the extra workload.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council services are already under pressure and inadequate. People should not lose their jobs because the government cannot provide the appropriate funding. The council needs to do something to try and get more funding...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Its a huge amount of money your trying to save, job losses etc would be awful for people in this already challenging period for famiies.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	no more cuts to services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is a concern as staffing levels are at a minimum already is some establishments.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	need for staff is so high that I can't understand why you would cut to staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	need staff	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would the reduction in management (1B) and digitisation (1C) have some impact on this figure as well?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Do I detect redundancies?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Focus on reducing/eliminating top-heavy management structures and greedy, bureaucratic tender processes that leave council departments forced to use contractors and suppliers which are often seriously overpriced.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	ie This means Staff layoff?; If so why not say so.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	What does this mean, other than redundancy after redundancy?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Where will these staff reductions be made?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Slashing jobs in the worst cost of loving crisis we have seen for years!!! Well done WLC 🙏	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff are already under strain and further cuts will damage service delivery.Staff need a cost-of-living wage rise .; People expectations for Council services are rising and yet this is suggestion services will be cut.; Investing in your staff and retaining good quality of staff is the council best asset.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We'll if they want to work from home they may as well do it permanently	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Voluntary redundancies or perhaps incentives for some people to work part-time to reduce costs might work -	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is a sobering and somewhat depressing thought. However, it strikes me that there are 9 wards in West Lothian Council with 3 or 4 Council Members for each ward. When I was a youngster in West Lothian - 40-50 years ago, we had 1 councillor - not 4 councillors. Given that our 34 council members cost approx. £752k per annum, maybe if we cut the number of council members, we could save close on 1/2 million pounds.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Start with the chief executives salary and work down from there	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sacking people will not make things better in the long term.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Limit the number of promoted posts (permanent and temporary) and reduce the top tier pay scales.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Could this result in some staff being made redundant?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Keep working from home	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Recruitment freeze?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Can the sick pay policy be reviewed to reduce cost ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Instead of paying off and reducing staff why don't the ones at the top take less of a wage instead of the 6 figure sun wages their getting it's an absolute joke	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	EMPLOYEES WITH OVER 45 YEARS SERVICE GIVEN ENHANCED PAYMENT TO RETIRE	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Certain policies could be revised e.g. supporting attendance in the workplace. This could help stop abuse of these policies Staff members who abuse these policies must cost WLC a substantial amount of money per year.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce the pay for the high earners and keep lower pays staff they are the ones who carry out the public services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Is the Chief Executive willing to take a pay cut, as a gesture of goodwill?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is a joke, right? We are going to save an estimated £6.2 million without being able to even vacuously identify specifics.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In other words there will be massive staff payoffs, leaving an increasing unemployment figure in West Lothian	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Good luck with that!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Does this mean multiple job cuts are to be made? In what sectors?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities. This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A very large saving reflects the number of jobs that will go. This will have a massive impact on individuals and their communities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Where are you proposing to make these savings from? Which staffing services would be cut?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Charges and cost of living are already increasing	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	WLC have cut so many services it is difficult to see where further reductions would come from.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If the majority of savings is staffing costs then the service delivery cannot be to the same level. However, we are at statutory level of service provision in many areas. Are we suggesting that we now reduce the statutory provisions?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council will have to continue delivering statutory services, however they could be undertaken in a more efficient way.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is such a huge and complicated matter to make comments on.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So you are going to reduce council workers to save you money	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Does this mean increased unemployment numbers?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is creative finance.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	What would a move to a four day week look like across all aspects of council services - a compressed week? Would this enable additional staffing savings as well as associated energy costs etc? Also, it would very likely lead to increased health and wellbeing amongst staff which in turn would lead to greater productivity.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Insufficient information to comment. However, those areas of highest spend (and potentially year on year growth in spend) typically are those areas most likely to benefit from a comprehensive view of spend.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I feel reducing staff numbers and expertise in planning is counter-productive. Planning facilitates development which contributes to the wider economy. Providing warm, secure, affordable and adaptable homes reduces the demand on front-line services such as homelessness, mental health support, help to increase employability etc.. A good home is a basic human need that enables our children, businesses and people in general to operate and flourish. Strong, defensible planning policies can extract land value uplift for the greater public good. Weak policies may lead to challenges and costs awarded against the council.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree with reducing bureaucracy and increasing efficiency wherever possible. Suggest reduced use of contract workers.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Vacant homes turnover needs to be improved upon. I have seen houses sitting empty for months on end when people could be living there instead of holed up in b and b's or hotels, and paying rent and council tax. As for temporary housing accommodation having everything stripped out at the end of the tenancy, this is wasteful and not cost effective. A thorough inspection for any damages or infestations with a deep clean if needed would be better. Not all temporary housed people are disrespectful or dirty. If there is a bed bug infestation then obviously this needs dealt with asap but this will be in a minority of cases.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council uses its current housing stock fully. When a property is returned our void teams will inspect, repair and clean a property as necessary. The council aims to make properties available to re-let as quickly as possible.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Are staff delivering on their objectives at work? How is their work performance managed?. Some recent interactions with council employees lead me to wonder if they are truly answerable for some of the poor performance they exhibit.; ; Linlithgow Library - "we're on a no contact day today" What does that mean? Does it mean that staff can't be polite and helpful?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again job loss!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You need to employ more caring people. Clear weeds from pavements and roads. Empty bins, pick up litter. Never see a bin man walking the streets picking up the rubbish. Never see now anyone going round in the machine that sweeps up. Place looks like a tip.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I'm not sure I can comment on this, I don't know enough.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So £6.2m equates to 100 - 150 people? Add in all the other staff reductions that you are suggesting on the other proposals equates to what percentage of your current staff?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	more cut backs then? How is the general public supposed to comment on these questions??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I feel the Council have a hard task ahead and yes it is likely that the balance will be met by changes to service delivery and staffing levels. However there are always consequences to actions and I truly hope its not at the expense of Council tenants and staff.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Consider review of contract terms & conditions - e.g. review of overtime/shift patterns for relevant services.; Redesign service delivery to ensure work is undertaken in core hours without the need to incur overtime costs - particularly in refuse collection.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Changes to service delivery and staffing levels across the council's workforce will be maximised by having extremely attractive redundancy terms for people who may be contemplating whether to seek pastures new resultant from WLC proposed changes.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am sure there are creative ways to reduce staff numbers and maintain productivity	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So does this mean redundancies? Enforced retirement? With the suggested cuts to school funds, good luck recruiting teachers after giving them more workload by getting rid of more of my colleagues!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Unclear as to why the council would have so many staff in excess of their actual need	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council doesn't have excess staff. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Interested to hear how staff savings are being made	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Surely making people unemployed will only increase the demands on the council?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	You keep paying people off - this reduces the service you can provide with less staff available to do the work. And again, if you keep paying people off - what happens to them? Don't they just go onto the unemployment bill?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	This sounds like extensive job loses and would be hugely concerning! How will this impact on long term sustainability of services; quality of services offered. General impact financially on the economy for West Lothian? Long term Mental Health, Care and Well being for those working for the council and those who impacted by the cut in services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	So less staff and more work for the poor souls that are left. The poorer our services become the more complaints we will receive and the more time will be wasted trying to placate people	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	That's good to know but the question still remains - Can you still deliver all that you're delivering today without compromising the quality and without passing the overhead to the community?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Please see comments above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would like to see what these plans are in principle	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Is this redundancies or staff retiring?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	What are the proposals?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Where would these cuts be made?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	See every answer before	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	See above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment until I can see where exactly the cuts are planned	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Can't comment as there is no detail about what the impact would be.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As per previous comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I don't feel I have enough knowledge on this area to offer an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No Comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not sure what we are asked to comment on	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Concerns	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	...	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	not familiar with the internal process of all the above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	None.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to what this would involve or how it would affect individuals, services within the Council.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	See all comments above.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Not detailed enough on its potential impact to give comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I blame ***** (redacted)	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Can't comment when there are no details provided.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Cannot comment as no detail provided.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	People need jobs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Djd	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	This seems vague so I can't comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As answer one	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No comment. But thank you for letting me know to start looking for a permanent position.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Na	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unable to comment on this as you have not provided any information or detail. Too vague.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Not sufficient detail to warrant an educated informed response.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again, there isn't enough detail about the impact of this change to comment on.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Difficult to comment because of lack of detail	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is a general statement and nothing to comment on.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Too vague to really comment on. Without any detail this would be a very poor way of achieving actual funding reduction	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again what will happen to the many families whom this will impact?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I mean do you actually care what anyone thinks because the wording is not clear or easy to understand for this with no background in this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I don't see books, no way I can comment on that.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is impossible to comment on in general like this. It appears you are saying that these saving can only be done with redundancies. You are trying to get sign off for this without detail of what is being proposed and which staff will be affected. Voluntary redundancy means you lose your best and most experienced people. There is a fear you will cut staff from places that are needed the most that deal in the vulnerable category. So any reduction in staff should be further consulted in detail not just with a question like this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Given the ambiguous nature of this proposal it is likely to be quite unsettling for some staff. The council perhaps needs to consider expressions of interest from those staff who are thinking about retirement or voluntary redundancy, and come up with ways of managing this. If it can identify staff who wish to leave of their own volition, it can start to plan services with the staff who remain.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	With the issues experienced within the council recently with regards to strikes and planned actions a reduction in staffing is not going to improve efficiency. Instead it is going to annoy residents even more with the fact services will be even more inefficient than they are at present.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Gobbildaygook! If what you are saying is that you will cut staff overhead and allow numbers to reduce then great. Too many high senior management salaries and that needs trimmed. More account of overall remuneration packages should be considered and a rein in of very high base salaries is required across local government	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More flexible working could minimise reductions	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Need to look at long term sickness within the Council. To keep paying staff wages after a certain amount of time of sickness is not sustainable. Could make cost savings on supply posts also.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Minimise job losses	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	At what point does the very generous and expensive civil service pension arrangements come into focus - close to new members and create a DC scheme like the rest of industry has to deal with and the benefits / savings vrs a DB scheme will more than take account of the deficit	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would suggest that Scotland as whole stops having to give huge pay-offs to high ranking council officials .	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It is obvious that some council staff are earning their salaries and others are being compensated for their time.; This cannot go on in any organisation if it claims to be delivering best service at best cost and claiming to be "efficient ".	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The cost of living will impact everyone should staff numbers be cut, services are stretched as it is.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Many staff do not feel valued and do not feel that they are invested in, through training opportunities or time for self-directed learning	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	All of your proposals already suggest either reduced staffing or service provision. Or both. I do not see any reference to any scrutiny of expenses such as functions/hospitality/expenses etc? Are there no savings to be made there?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	there is a lot of older staff looking for a package I their workplace this would free up staffing either to reduce staffin hour or not to replace st all some of the older jobs are not needed now in some areas	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council staff are inefficient	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Be careful what services you cut. People make WLC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would like more detail on how this is to be achieved. With the implementation of Hybrid working, there is possibly a case for reducing the Council's estate in terms of the reliance on buildings. Staff can attend various buildings when required.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More support should be provided for home working/flexi-working and part time posts which encourages employees to remain with council and saves money in recruitment costs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	BYOP bring your own phone to work rather than providing people with mobiles where possible. ; - Paying staff appropriate wages commensurate with experience will help retain valuable people and knowledge, which will better support other workers/staff and retention is in the longer term going to deliver a cost saving v constant recruitment and turnover.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There is a danger through re-structures that we lose valued members of staff who may not want to go through the process and we are left with staff who do not perform at the best level or have a sickness history. There are already areas of pressure through the streamlining that has been carried out and staff have left because of this. Recruitment to replace staff is proving difficult due to the private sector market having higher salaries and being able to offer better terms than Local Authorities.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	From a personal perspective and thinking about my own colleagues / teams my initial reaction is of some concern. This would suggest that jobs would be lost. I appreciate that this is a 1st reaction without being aware of detail etc. However, when those details / aren't available then people can't help fear that proposed changes will be bad for them.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Where will this short fall be, which staff teams. Worry that it will be the staff that people need who will get rid of first, rather than those higher up in the council who earn more money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More partnership working. Cut overtime.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I hope that larger wage bills are considered before the front line staffing cuts are considered. How many front line staff can you employ for a high paid managers salary? ratio probably 3:1 depending on the job. Its not middle management that needs restructured it should start at the top	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps mechanisms for scrutiny of employee activity should be applied equally across all sectors, departments and salary levels. This may not be the case, but in my view certain sectors (eg social work, education) have far less 'downtime' during paid working hours than other sectors. And there are many council employees, particularly in education, who are actually working far in excess of their contractual agreements on a regular basis as it is. Cuts in these areas will directly impact on employee health.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unsure how to cut staff - already at a minimum in some centres	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would hope the majority of these could be made (in relation to staffing numbers) from natural ends like retirements, ends of fixed term contracts etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think that the level of sickness absences needs to be investigated. People who receive a shift allowance for working out of hours, weekends, night shifts etc should not receive that shift allowance when off sick. Especially if off long-term sick. I know a few people who calculate when they are able to go off sick again without triggering sickness absence levels. It is a sad statistic that there are employees who know how to play the system and are able to get away with it.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	WLC is the biggest employer in WL. Axing jobs will place a greater burden in terms of financial support towards our colleagues and their search for a new role.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	If cuts are to be made, where? Understand that cuts are needed, but you need to say where from as i would agree with some but not others especially if its from services i use and need.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I do not see any reference to Restructuring of premises use to save money?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This is considered in question 21. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Seems a high value for a general balance. Would be go to know the service areas this would affect as feel NETS has taken the lion's share of efficiencies in the past and the WL environ is suffering	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Again a broad general comment - what staffing is to be reduced? Areas such as rubbish collection are already stretched - the gap between bin collections (of all different sorts) should not be made any bigger for health reasons.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So what you are saying is that the majority of the savings will be from making staff redundant. How are going to provide any decent services then? It needs a more nuanced approach to identify which staff are most important in maintaining priority services and keep them at all costs. If you cut across the board you will loose your best people.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I fear for more job loses	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As WLC now appears to suggest that savings in staffing costs may be made, perhaps starting with the chief executive, and the next 30 highest paid WL employees could be given notice of the termination of their employment. The mis-management that they have allowed to happen, if they now say that "savings" are achievable, must clearly show that they were never actually fit to be placed in such positions of responsibility. Such salary reduction might get close to an estimated saving of £6.2 million.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is terrible news, we are in for a rough time	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Noted. Which services are likely to be reduced.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Re; staffing costs. Following the Signal Status procedure, low level and senior managers were given huge increases in their salaries. Now the total cost of this is mega. This section should be called Revised Management Wages Structure Savings. The above SS process was a vehicle used to give management even more money. This whole process should be looked at again.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Surely looking at the pay & benefits package, sickness pay etc should be undertaken.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Take care! Your long term experienced staff could be your most important resource, as long as they are actually working their full hours effectively and usefully. Other staff will know who they are, or not!!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again, comments on staffing numbers will be mirrored here. If there is to be a further staff reduction, following on from significant reductions in previous years, this may have a detrimental effect on the quality of services offered by the organisation. Poor or low performance may result in increased costs through having to deal with customer queries / enquiries, or potential legislative challenges.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again, this is very vague but comes with a £6.2 million saving!!!! Don't want to see any council employees losing their jobs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Start at the top and look at some of these roles and salaries.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	See my earlier comment. Staff are vital to the success of delivery of services. But it needs the right staff. There will be staff who are 'surplus to requirements' in some areas, and there will be areas where there are intense pressures on staff at certain times. Having a more flexible staff pool would help.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Very concerned that this staffing saving may result in a high number of redundancies.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If this means redundancies and loss of jobs this isn't good. If people leave with decent retirement packages that is a different story!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This would depend on which staff were reduced and if the same service was delivered.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff requesting VERA should be granted it to allow for natural wastage. There should be no compulsory redundancies	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	School cleaning staff can be cut (and potentially redeployed or retrained elsewhere).; ;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would this mean redundancy or not replacing staff members who leave or retire?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Trim staff in areas that are over subscribed.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	consolidate your services into one facility (Whitehill?) and reduce staffing.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing levels have already been cut. Any further decreases in staffing results in additional pressures on staff who remain and will directly impact on all areas of the council work. If this is where savings must be made these pressures need to be recognised.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Lots of jobs at risk. Reducing staff means there will be a greater workload and More pressure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If reduction in staff means remaining staff doing more work through suppressed posts then again this will severely reduce morale.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Job losses and greater unemployment all round.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	staff in the council are really busy and i dont see how they can be cut.; is it really necessary to have so many big chiefs? wages they get is so much more than what they should get; the people further down who are doing the work have to do more; more and more people need the services in the community to support the community	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I hope it will only be voluntary redundancies	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Why not offer packages to those near retirement age.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	That's a large amount of staff.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There should be minimal wage rises if any for those on top.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I can't speak for other service areas but in education, staffing is key, specifically staffing in schools, with the large majority of staff in my school working longer than their contracted hours, unpaid, in order to keep the service running effectively.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Hard to imagine where staff cuts could be made.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	More detail needs to be provided. This statement for consultation is too vague. Which staff, what departments?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Many council staff still working from home - how effective is this in delivering services?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	To cut staffing levels in schools will be dangerous and detrimental. School staff are already struggling to deal with the demands and the violence and aggression being displayed by children. This will continue to worsen.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	To my knowledge most areas of the council are already tight with staffing. Further staffing cuts will mean increased workloads in the main for those remaining and the loss of jobs in this cost of living crisis for families is worrying	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cannot have the same targets with less staff; Should redundancy packages be a consideration	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Inevitable that staffing levels will change and alter; ; Therefore customer expectations must also change ;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Look at high level jobs and middle managerial roles - many overlap with those above/below and the cost savings in merging these would be significant.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff cuts will only make services worse.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing could be cut to some services but money is being wasted on snp wanting another referendum! How much does this cost?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	What happens to the staff that will lose their jobs??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Remove community councils from the area.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	How many people have been involved in the development of this questionnaire? How many people will be involved in the processing of any responses. How many people will be involved in the analysis of any comments returned via this media? What proportion of the West Lothian population are aware of the consultation process? True responses cannot be provided to these questions as they are open ended and lack substance. Cut staff where necessary and where one person could do the job that two people are doing presently.....	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The idea that staffing cuts will be made is alarming as the council's delivery seems so stretched as it is. Investing in technology and process improvement should be the starting point, without assumption that jobs will be lost.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You can start by culling the number of highly paid executives on the council. Greater investment in high quality equipment which makes light work of the manual tasks where frankly the ground crews are either too thinly stretched or the techniques and tools dont permit the efficiency the council thinks on a spreadsheet. The other fact which I find annoying simplistic for 8 years the council act surprised that there is a budget gap and let's everyone know. Perhaps a review of the financial planning an controls is required because it should not be a suprise. Yes council tax has been frozen for far too long and yes that was the fault of central government, however and conversely my income tax VAT tax and council tax has only but increased over the years and I'm sure I do not find myself in a unique position. So where the heck is all our money going if councils are cutting services and roles.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce staff means more people unemployed which means you will drag us further down because then you will have more people on universal credit!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In order to provide service council need to have enough staff . Need to review properly where there is any over staff or under staff	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing in schools must be protected	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Many staff are already working extended roles due to previous savings and cost cutting exercises. I realise change necessary and recognise that services will be lost but fear that all the investment in attracting people to live in West Lothian and build communities will be eroded.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Don't see how that is going to help anything, it will just mean that more people will lose their jobs and have to rely upon the council for help.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Please save money by cutting the salaries of your high earners. Leave the schools and leisure services alone.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Adjust office staffing. Do not cut funding or staffing in schools.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	How are we meant to answer this? I have to assume that people employed by the council are gainfully employed otherwise you have been negligent in your budget management over a number of years.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council services are already low. You can't cut a workforce that is at bare-bones. The impact on the society for these job losses will not look like savings to them. Councils will inevitably be failing the people that put them there.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff are the front line resource and face of WLC, invest in staff will increase retention and encourage people to commit to a career in local government. Sharing information online as part of the survey that staffing levels are to be reduced will have a detrimental impact on staff morale	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Redundancies? Not good news at all.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Worrying for staffing, service levels and mental health of those losing their jobs	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I'm sure there are many staff who are working longer hours to get through the work and don't get paid	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut payments to outsourcing companies keep all work in house and locally accountable	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduced staffing will reduce delivery and impact standards.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Always the frontline staff that are the hit when savings are to be made ... nothing new in management thinking there.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Jobs for the boys. We see through it.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As long as there are no job cuts but better policies in place to get rid of lazy workers	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our employees regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel employees in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Inevitably given the cost profile of the services provided but staffing reductions reallocations should be made from non productive committees .settings etc. towards direct frontline services and the activities that support them.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council should focus on key services and either withdraw from non key areas or increase charges to reflect full cost of providing services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Consider key services and stop those services which are not deemed to be key or fully funded by government	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I not sure about this I think two many people at the top could save some there	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Further cuts in staff should be avoided as this will likely degrade service delivery.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again the cuts and reduction to headcount is aimed at the workers on the ground. It is at this level that the real value of the council is delivered. Where cuts should be made is at the multiple layers of management and beurocracy. Councils have never been successful since the focus shifted from service delivery to service management.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There is higher management in most departments of the council that isn't needed, their salaries alone would save quite a bit of money	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cuts to secure jobs would be a major loss and have a major impact in many sectors.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Hard to contact staff now with working at home procedures in place. More flexible working patterns needed instead of the comment 'its not my job'.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If staffing has to be reduced then it should be at management level. The bulk of the council work that the public needs done is carried out by the many lower paid manual/customer facing workers and these are the staff that are needed to keep everything running. To reduce management will save more with the loss of fewer positions.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce staffing through voluntary severance. Only retain the most motivated and committed stff - let the rest go and trouser the saving.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council currently have no redundancy policy which means staff would be redeployed and not necessarily saving budgets but impacting massively on services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Has rationalisation to pay and conditions of both officers and councillors been conducted and if not, why not?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I can only assume that younger younger/newer staff on fixed term will go as well as anyone taking early retirement and we'll be left with gaps where we need people that can't be filled.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	How are our website designed to help people find relevant information to address their issues to enable self-service.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council uses a variety of platforms and channels to help residents of West Lothian to stay up to date with news in the local area and also, provide them with access to council services and new information. We track engagement levels with each channel and continually look for ways to improve our reach and content.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce middle management and promoted posts. Be more vigorous in expense claims	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Pensions... stop the pensions and bring them to the real world!! People's pension with minimum contributions by employer!!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduced staffing costs will always result in a poorer service. Long tenured staff should be asked to move on or take redundancy. Middle management should be reduced and younger staff should be trained in other cross service areas to multiskill them. Younger workers should be nurtured into further education supported by the council	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Look at staff about to returned. Look part time working, job share etc..	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	should not be compulsory redundancies	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing costs - expenses claimed and unnecessary bonuses paid which further impact the costs for families already struggling.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Maybe all the highly paid managers members of parliament etc should have their wages reduced and not given vast bonuses	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing level is too high anyway. We all know workers working from home that are out walking their dogs 3 times a day	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Voluntary redundancy or early retirement?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would be concerned if internal support services like IT are cut given the increased use of technology and digital solutions	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Review of need for stand-by cover and other unproductive time to bring into line with others in industry / the likes of reserve fire service where they get paid for emergency call-outs but the rest of the time continue on normal duties / are at home (perhaps with a small stipend for the latter). Sensible flexibility during times of prolonged adverse weather such that someone out all night is not required to work the next day etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Training budgets seem to be very limited except for on-the tools safety training however a well-trained up to date staff are far more effective than those who are not. Investment in willing staff reduces costs in the long run.; ; Proper management training for managers and processes which encourage all staff to work effectively rather than putting in the required hours is key.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Jobs should not just be cut! Redundancy is last resort - all effort should be made to recreate new jobs with the combination of existing staff and not filling vacancies.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Some of your workforce is statutory and therefore cannot be reduced - only leaves small amount to remove - and possibly the folks that make a big difference.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Actively engage with the staff to improve and encourage active input from them in work sharing/part time/flexible hours/early retirement etc	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Re address councillors areas. Amalgamation resulting in less councillors resulting in saving expenses etc. Remove consultancy positions . Reduce and streamline management positions and with monies saved invest in staff.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Great more people unemployed	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As long as there is not more work placed on fewer staff by these changes then ok.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. This includes staffing resources.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	£6m from some unknown source? How can anyone possibly comment on whether the agree or disagree with this?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Generally satisfied with services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Happy with services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Generally satisfied with services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Generally satisfied with services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Happy with council services no major issues	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Generally satisfied with services	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Huge saving	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduced staffing levels across the board is suggested here, but no context. Hard to comment on such.a vague proposal.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More job losses ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Dedicated and inspiring staff need to be paid appropriately or the whole education, leisure sector will continue to decline	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If you keep your skilled staff and take the opportunity to restructure parts of the organisation which are ineffective this will have less impact. If skilled staff leave, and inefficient staff are realigned, this will have a negative impact.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Need to ensure no impact on services and that don't end up funding expensive temporary staff.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Consider looking at alternative models such as 4 day weeks and efficiencies in delivery.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Ensure that staff are delivering effectively and their utilisation is high (cut waste in delivery, avoid weekend and out of hours working).	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	When we talk about efficiencies and effectiveness, how much does the WLAM (and similar evaluation/monitoring) cost? Is there a better way of doing this?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Maintain non-compulsory redundancies, but very carefully appraise requests for non-compulsory redundancies, some of these in the past have been false economies	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing levels could be reviewed with middle/senior management posts being assessed - many of the middle management teams are stretched to breaking point (see sickness absence through stress related illness) = re-introduction of chargehand type posts could relieve some of the pressure managers are under	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As mentioned before there are other options the council could look at to make savings rather than reducing staff further to an already struggling workforce.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Any staffing level reduction has to not be in front line services that people benefit from but in back room staff - if you update systems then surely that is where the staff reductions would be and over time. You need to understand what services are being accessed or not accessed and review why before changing the delivery.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Offer job sharing/reduced hours and phased retirement opportunities for areas considered to be over resourced	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	again as per my previous comments - be honest about staff cuts and provide opportunities for people who will lose jobs to have a decent pay off and not pretend that we don't have compulsory redundancies - be honest and don't manage staff out of the service - we don't deserve that	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The time it takes to move staff through organisational change procedures should be reduced, it is over-generous and unrealistic in today's circumstances.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So reducing staff in most of the savings and now this general balance of savings to be made - the only way the council will do this is to offer staff who might be thinking about retiring - for a period of time and i'm sure there will be some who would take it to free up a lot of savings going forward and perhaps without reducing staff in the previous points putting this out there first to free up savings for staff who want to go and the positive result would be that you would still have staff committed to the cause who would be lost just for the sake of having to reduce staff.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Allow more people to work from home	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A review of staffing structure and delivery could provide savings	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again restructure the supervisors /management as not all needed	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If staffing is to be reduced any further then service delivery has to change and stop appropriately. This needs to be recognised properly by council management and elected members, and not expect life to continue as normal. This will impact on staff morale if not properly addressed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again, avoid making savings that just move the role from Central support to individual service function areas.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In addition, there must be recognition by Senior Management, Members and the public that there has been a reduction in staffing, which will result in changes to expectations, no longer being able to provide non statutory and 'nice to do' work and the increased pressure on remaining staff.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would need to be managed carefully. Some services which are not statutory are highly regarded and valued ie advice shop need to ensure they have resources to meet the increasing need	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This worries me and my financial stability may be at risk- further information and what this mean for individual employees would ease this worry but there is cost of living crisis at the moment and it is already a worrying time	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Give people the chance to leave earlier than retirement age, flexible working, flexible retirement	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Real decisions need to be made around current service delivery and ways of doing business. Inevitably there will be a need to reduce staffing and get more for less, but this phrase is exhausted and we are in the realms of making real tough choices about the services we do and do not provide.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Much more could be done to rationalise the way our current ways of working are structured as it would appear that there are many patterns of work designed to fund premium payments whether they be in overtime or in shift allowances. Whilst these have a place, they should only be used where strategically and operationally necessary to provide and efficient and effective service.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	People needs jobs, services need to be delivered- the balance just needs to be right! No one wants to see people lose jobs, however many can work more effectively. Home/Flexible working should be an option to continue as it seems to be working for more people and giving a much better work life balance.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As mentioned before, redundancies should be voluntary and other roles identified.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	What is the annual total WLC staff budget? Do any/all WLC staff have an annual bonus included in their Salary package - I know in tough times - several local large (private) employers - took the step of effectively eliminating bonuses "for all employees" (including senior officers & directors). But probably still require to search out more efficiencies - again I always looked at Departmental Head level to achieve major reductions in staff costs - when I was running Wyman Gordon in Livingston	4. The council is already doing this.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels. The council no longer pays bonus to any of its employees.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	No involuntary redundancies.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Maybe offer more job share or 4 day weeks to staff?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Before the decisions are made though, please make sure that each proposal is looked at closely and the outcomes are realistic and do not have a major consequence to the lives of the community of West Lothian.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	i think tenant who mess up their homes should be charged,the military did, even down to picture hook holes.	4. The council is already doing this.	For the most part, customers who damage their homes are recharged for the cost of repairs. There is some complexity here as the council deals with a wide variety of people in different circumstances. In some cases the individual may have vulnerabilities that mean they are not fully aware of their actions.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Visible opportunities for savings seem to be ; Multiple road maintenance projects seem to dig up the same areas of roads immediately after repairs have been carried out; better scheduling could save money and create less disruption.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The cost of 'hiring' plant and machinery should be scrutinised - a massive saving could be made if managed properly ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly review fleet requirements and utilisation to ensure best value and that operational needs are met.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Road repair/road upgrade contracts seem very inefficient. Recent roadworks on the dual carriageway section of the A7066 at Bathgate have taken a very long time and staff come out on a Saturday morning, stand talking to each other and are gone by noon, I do not believe this is an efficient use of services. This may be contracted and therefore the council must ensure that each contract is measured as per original tender and any overspends are quantified and backed up before payment agreed.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Community service focus on litter picking etc?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council currently uses resources from Community payback Orders to litter pick within its parks and open spaces.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop cutting grass and hedges in schools unless requested - biodiversity is part of the curriculum and maintenance should be around safety only. Perhaps schools should request on an as and when basis?	4. The council is already doing this.	Biodiversity: the council is developing a Local Biodiversity Action Plan that is aimed at improving biodiversity and natural habitats and introducing long term and sustainable projects that will benefit from natural assets. It will also include options for engaging with schools.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop cutting grass and hedges in schools unless requested - biodiversity is part of the curriculum and maintenance should be around safety only. Perhaps schools should request on an as and when basis? Grass verges and roundabouts could be planted with wild flowers as in Fife. Community service focus on litter picking etc?	4. The council is already doing this.	Biodiversity: the council is developing a Local Biodiversity Action Plan that is aimed at improving biodiversity and natural habitats and introducing long term and sustainable projects that will benefit from natural assets. It will also include options for engaging with schools. The council currently uses resources from Community payback Orders to litter pick within its parks and open spaces.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Keep necessary plant and equipment replaced as needed so that money is not wasted on hiring unappropriated plant and equipment.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly review fleet requirements and utilisation to ensure best value and that operational needs are met.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I have seen WLC vans parked up for more than 1 week at a time. This is a waste of 25% of the vehicle. I am sure the staff member is also not working for that 25%	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly review fleet requirements and utilisation to ensure best value and that operational needs are met.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Absolutely, but would this be not replacing retired people? As voluntary redundancy is a huge waste of money.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Once again compulsory redundancies should be avoided and customer experience should be at the forefront of any decisions taken in this area.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Maybe staff employment needs to be looked at, employing people who are more suitable for the job rather than finding the job for people who don't really want this position. Loyalty between staff and company are limited	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	From the top to the bottom full job reviews and performance against roles should be done to find the right personnel to carry out tasks - but cutting to lean will waylay in higher sickness cost due to mental health	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. Employee wellbeing is a priority for the council and a range of support and resources are available for employees and managers to access.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Don't make too many staff unemployed	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We can't keep good people. People are leaving for a better work life balance in other organisations. Some teams, particularly where there are national skills shortages, where people can choose to work where the conditions suit them, are in constant recruitment mode. The council should seek to cut specific projects and programmes that don't delivery any meaningful outcomes or contribute directly to delivery of the 8 priorities.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Some solutions for you: For procurement seek value for money.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	For procurement seek value for money.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Opening up procurement for smaller, local businesses would likely reduce your costs. Making the process less burdensome and bureaucratic would be helpful for smaller businesses to compete.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Ask companies rather than chuck food away to give it away to those in need.	4. The council is already doing this.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	People losing jobs will have have a terrible affect on the community. I think everything should be done to keep people employed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Offer voluntary severance more widely to reduce headcount.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	WLC's revision of staffing may indeed result in cuts, reorganisation etc but if the outcome is a less dynamic, less effective model of provision, education and support it will diminish the life chances of all age groups of WLC clients. Indeed we will not get the same service or more for less, but definitely much less for everyone.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	difficult to see people losing jobs and compulsory redundancies should be minimised where possible	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	West Lothian has a longstanding, excellent reputation for providing high quality services and excellent relations with residents in the council area. This should not be adversely affected by any changes to staffing levels and service delivery.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There are different budgets within the council and the expectation to achieve cuts is that all budgets and staffing within those budgets need to be reviewed and evaluated.	4. The council is already doing this.	All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop building new offices all over west lothian and that would be a massive saving.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has undertaken a programme to rationalise the office and partnership centre estate, saving significant revenue and capital costs. There are no plans to build offices with the council looking to further rationalise the property estate.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Service centre staff could work remotely in a lot of cases and I would think there is very little footfall to justify maintaining the white elephant civic centre.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently undertaking a flexible working pilot which should provide opportunities for future rationalisation. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	21.3 million would be better spent on more housing as West Lothian are very short on housing.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has been successfully progressing one of the larger local authority building programmes and has built over 2000 houses in the last decade. As well as this the council has been working with other social landlords to support them to deliver affordable housing in West Lothian and the Council has been working with private landlords to improve standards and availability.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut the grass.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut the grass. Take pride in our area.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It is vital to the welfare and mental health of everyone working and living in West Lothian to have the local environment protected and cared for. From maintenance of our outdoor spaces to the cleanliness of our streets and the regular maintenance of paths, shrubbery trees and drains. The will and desire to follow up works completed by or for outside agencies to make sure the environment is improved by their works and returned to the same or a better state than when work began. Fines for poor work or late work, fines for damage to our environment to be clear and pursued.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More money should be spent on vulnerable people and pensioners.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again, taking the best route to ensure minimum upset for staff such as voluntary redundancy or retirement.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Options for early retirement and natural wastage or redeployment should be used with no forced redundancy	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think if redundancy packages were offered to staff over 60 this would help streamline the workforce.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Be very careful when pulling financial streams as they may adversely effect the delivery of council services. It is already a very difficult process to carry out procurement within the education sector.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Your external contractors charge higher just because you are the Council and they know they will get paid, you could save a fortune there if you gave the smaller businesses a chance. they are qualified just the same and probably take more care, if they have the skills and qualifications, relevant insurance then why not?. You should introduce if not already! a limit on costs of regular jobs or increase your apprentices intake. Get some quotes from other contractors and see the difference. Have had quotes from both and the smaller business always came out cheaper and the finished product could not be faulted. Council Contractors are more expensive and take liberties as they know they will get the job which is not necessarily the better job. What the contractors charge should be challenged if not.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Look at procurement you pay companies way over the odds for goods this could save a fortune.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If staffing levels are going to reduce further, then the council is going to have to stop delivering some services completely. Current staff can not cope with further workloads without some major change in approach	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Need to identify savings in workforce that are not directly related to people i.e. face to face care which is already suffering. To reduce these services too much will cause longer term more expensive issues. Areas like FM & Property Services need closer examination for reduction in costs.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Be very wary of the way life is just now. Loosing staff will result in higher unemployment in the area which will then stretch other services in West Lothian. Think about reducing staff through retirement or moving on, rather than cutting jobs.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think core roles (education, social work etc) need to be saved. Society will crumble without them.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again, more detail is required for these plans. Management of retirees for example is vastly different to redundancies in schools say.	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	6 million is a lot of money to find - I assume that external auditors will be involved to identify the many millions that are spent on management levels within WLC and see if they offer value for money. I also assume that if more people are working from home, then the civic centre could also be sold and re-leased off a private company if not all the space is needed.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Council's support and management costs are one of the lowest in Scotland, demonstrating value for money. Performance indicators and value for money indicators are verified and considered by external auditors. The council is looking at opportunities to rationalise office estate, recognising savings arising from hybrid working. Consolidation of older buildings into the Civic Centre generated substantial savings for the council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	That's a great pity as both customers and staff will suffer. Keep at the Government to properly fund local government or allow you to raise Council Tax.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am not surprised to see that many of the proposed savings are by cutting jobs of the face to face staff, yet senior and middle management seem to be untouched.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Make this based on performance, commitment to the service of West Lothian and cut the parts of the organisation that are not bearing fruit.	4. The council is already doing this.	All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think higher management levels could be reduced but reducing staffing on the ground level would be a mistake.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I hope staffing could be realigned rather than losing their positions.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council staff has been reducing over the 15 years with not a great deal of modernization creating more efficient workloads, just seems more with less which will in time, impact on the quality of service delivery	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made improvements to processes, employing improvements through digital transformation and updating processes to reflect modern practice. The council's processes have changes substantially however it will continue to investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	please ensure that there is still an option for people to access support from a member of staff when it is needed. The most venerable in our society can often not navigate online systems without support , or help to understand what is required of them. It may mean these staff numbers are reduced from current levels, but it is important that they are there, and also that the provision of support by the Advice shop in Bathgate, who can help a huge number of people is kept in service.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council acknowledges that our customers expect access to council information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To enable this, the council will continue to look at ways to improve the website both as a tool to provide information on services, but also as a tool for customers to engage with the council, e.g. making payments online. However through the Customer Service Strategy the Council is committed to ensuring a range of contact methods are in place to suit the varied needs of customers.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cuts are already seen across West Lothian for eg villages and towns look unkempt in terms of landscaping services, you should maybe just plant wild meadows and be done with it..You need to get more creative in spending before cutting your workforce.	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. This consultation provides an opportunity for stakeholders to provide new ideas to help balance the gap.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Outside contractors who do work for the council should be reviewed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The Scottish Government gave Council's money for increased teacher numbers but did not ring fence this. The proposals in this consultation will lead to teacher numbers declining. This is absolutely not acceptable and will be robustly opposed by parents, teachers and unions.; The money for enhanced teacher numbers must be respected and used for what it was purposed for. Increased teacher numbers!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is focused on outcomes and priorities, not inputs. The council is focused on increasing attainment and uses its limited resources to support this priority.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So long as you are streamlining management and no-one on less than £20 an hour is being made redundant. We want deliverers not pen pushers.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps the staffing levels should not be taken from "ordinary" workers and from those high up earning huge salaries working directly for the council.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Perhaps the staffing levels should not be taken from "ordinary" workers and from those high up earning huge salaries working directly for the council.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Maintenance is essential for the safety of householders and should not be dismissed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to maintain residential and non-residential properties within its portfolio. As a social landlord tenant rents, combined with grant funding, provide millions of pounds of investment each year in maintenance and capital programme upgrades.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	houses need to be maintained better!	4. The council is already doing this.	Housing continually repairs homes as issues are reported and invests heavily in capital programme works which replace end of life components and improve older stock to meet ever increasing legal requirements for safety and energy efficiency standards
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	People want to have roses kept clean and looked after, bins emptied etc. these are the basics.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council should seek to work towards ethical commissioning, working with not for profit providers, hopefully achieving cost reductions	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Are there efficiencies that could be looked at?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You can't cut your way, or efficiency save your way out of this financial situation. Tax revenue collected has to rise.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Safety and security though are of prime importance especially where children are concerned and any cutbacks should ensure they are not compromised in any way.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Consider early retirement to bring down staffing levels.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The descriptions of changes to services detailed in this consultation sound minor, yet these amount to major cost savings through efficiencies. It's hard to believe that such cuts can be achieved without significant reduction in service quality. Or without some services being stopped altogether. Really, this consultation feels like a tick box exercise - not enough detail shared to generate meaningful dialogue with west lothian residents	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If the gap has to met from staffing levels, then the council needs to think how it can incentivise staff to leave. An enhanced voluntary severance scheme for the next five years would give staff time to consider their options and give the council time to consider how it could reshape its services with less staff.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council are so short of staff as it is I cannot see how this can happen and still maintain standards. Maybe some of the higher earning position could be streamlined.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A reduce in staffing will result in an increase in universal credit applications due to issues with finding work at the moment. Has this been taken into account? During a cost-of-living crisis, it seems unnesesaary to have staffing reductions as the main way to reduce spending. Staffing issues are still apparent in many schools and child care centers.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing levels are sufficient in some areas and insufficient in other areas as the Covid19 period has dramatically affected the country and should therefore be carefully considered when cuts are being reviewed especially in areas helping the lower income threshold and low health customers.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	maybe job share or flexi time would also help.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Very worrying that you want to reduce council staff numbers as it is a big employer in West Lothian. Hope the cuts are going to come from the top down as there is too many managers in the civic centre who could be streamlined instead of hard working staff who are on normal wages	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I trust that the council will act ethically in this context	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Whilst looking at staffing levels (also known as redundancy) the staff themselves should be consulted. Ask everyone in a council position how they in their roles can save time and money. This bottom up appropriate is time consuming however people want to be effective and have autonomy in their roles, trust them to come up with the solutions. They will be more likely to go along with you.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Please ensure staffing cuts are not simply culled from the delivery facing elements but ensure that savings are taken from senior management positions. How many West Lothian Council employees earn more than £100 k ? Cut down the highest rate of pay to £75k	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. Pay is commensurate with the level of responsibility and tasks undertaken by the postholder.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council need to look at all services and consider what is absolutely essential and not. Are iPads, phones and laptops needed by senior management and councillors.; Review councillor expenses and ensure that appropriate expenses are being claimed.; Admin across the whole council needs to be reviewed to ensure the necessary support and that tasks are being done at the right level rather than at the wrong level)ie at a higher level). ; Senior management expectations needs to match the resources that are in placed as well.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Councillor expenses are determined nationally and service standards are adjusted to match available resources.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Review of percentage that house builders contribute (and in my opinion) increased as they build scheme after scheme with little thought or contribution of expanding AND SUSTAINING OVER THE YEARS THE HOUSE WILL BE THERE the services householders will use. Why not a requirement of building a hub in each site if it is over a certain area and if it is two or three builders then need to all work together and contribute as the need for indoor facilities is greatly lacking in these big housing estates.	4. The council is already doing this.	The amount that a developer has to contribute to the infrastructure is set by legislation and during the planning permission stage
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council need to improve their management of properties. Tenants are living in substandard, damp ridden homes that are not fit for inhabiting and the council housing team are dragging their heels!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to maintain residential and non-residential properties within its portfolio. As a social landlord tenant rents, combined with grant funding, provide millions of pounds of investment each year in maintenance and capital programme upgrades.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	energy efficiency needs to start with the older council tenant properties which are very costly to heat	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to maintain residential and non-residential properties within its portfolio. As a social landlord tenant rents, combined with grant funding, provide millions of pounds of investment each year in maintenance and capital programme upgrades.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Prices of power for families should be lower and higher for cooperations. The government should fund more efficient sources of electricity I.e installing solar panels on council builds for free, free additional insulation for homes.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to maintain residential and non-residential properties within its portfolio. As a social landlord tenant rents, combined with grant funding, provide millions of pounds of investment each year in maintenance and capital programme upgrades.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	All new builds should have solar panels and the insulation/cladding that people contribute part of the cost to.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to minimising carbon emissions and installing appropriate generation equipment where possible.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Removing many levels of the management hierarchy, which are some big pay-outs, and having a more efficient and wider ranging job crossover would save much more than the savings required.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Pls keep redundancies to a minimum	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Always look for savings	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Within Education, there are too many staff removed from schools to work on projects rather than support pupils in school. These are all top end of the scale staff. Limit these and put some back into schools and this might help the attainment issues as well as supporting ASN pupils more effectively ; .	4. The council is already doing this.	The significant majority of Education Services resources is devolved to schools
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So basically you are asking the public to agree that additional savings of £6.2 million can be/should be found? What a ridiculous question. Officers and elected members should be working towards ensuring that the council has a balanced budget, this will result in difficult decisions (elected members cannot pick and choose based on their popularity to save their own seat, savings should be on merit, impact and achievability) but if the council cannot curb spending ahead of having to make savings this will have to happen.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	That's going to affect a lot of people at a time when families are already being hit hard. I hope the council has redeployment and re-employment opportunities to prevent a rise in local unemployment and poverty rates	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You have to decide whether West Lothian council is going to solely focus on giving free council homes to the needy and give second priority to everything else	4. The council is already doing this.	The council delivers a variety of services covering all demographics of society in West Lothian. No social landlord in the UK provides free homes. All social housing has a rent applied and that rent is either paid by the tenant if their income is above the welfare thresholds, or is paid for by the government through the Housing Costs elements of welfare payments. West Lothian Council Housing Revenue Account receives over £60m a year in rental income and with that money provides support services, capital programme investment, maintenance and also the provision of homes through new build programmes, or stock buybacks
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	REPAIR HOUSES THAT ARE BOARDED UP .	4. The council is already doing this.	The council maintains its own stock regularly and it is rare for a council owned property to be empty for long periods unless there are unusual circumstances. The council has a continuous repairs and maintenance programme. Please note that often reports of poorly maintained property are often ex-council or private properties
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Do not continue with the cycle route in Linlithgow would be one way to save money, or on reduced terms, Would like to understand the projected numbers for an outside facility that people would need to use a car to get to .	4. The council is already doing this.	Improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required. A future council decision will determine this comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Operational services is riddled with people dodging off and not working contracted hours. They also work very slowly including supervisors. Greater efficiency is required in that area, not Bon collections though. There is poor planning and assignment of work causing duplication and significant crossover. They also travel in 'gangs' of too many staff with some just standing around. The grounds maintenance teams are a joke and should be restructured, reduced and better supervised based on outcomes.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Well....you could start by better allocating funds. Ridiculous spending occurs on uncoordinated and poorly planned road maintenance and silly pilots such as spaces for people and changing speed limits temporarily. You might want to invest in someone who is able to coordinate and plan road projects alongside a variety of other service providers to save both time and money. e.g. instead of creating roadworks on several occasions for different purposes, share the cost and dig it up once so that all the services can maintain their part at a reduced cost. Instead of widening pavements and blocking up drains, maybe just maintain the roads that are there.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I have highlighted that more investment in preventative services are more beneficial and see a better ROI from the likes of services that ease the spending of other 'reactive' services ie improve health interventions with the increased financial support to leisure service to reduce people having to go into care, become dependant on medication and claim benefits. This will then work in tandem with the NHS strategy to use 'alternative treatments' therefore reducing costs. Also, the increased funding support to local and community inclusion groups would see young people being provided with opportunities at an earlier stage instead of investing in social care strategies that work with those who are affected through missed opportunities earlier in life. West Lothian Council should invest in intervention and prevention services rather than reactive services.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Focus on effective and efficient, rather than slash and burn	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It is never welcome news to hear of staffing reductions. Investment in the areas already mentioned should help to naturally reduce the number of staff required and the process for filling/refilling posts should be tightened to reduce the need for redundancies etc.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Agree with the current no compulsory redundancy policy. Possible opportunity to allow people to retire should they wish to do so and cut agency staff costs.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would enhanced voluntary redundancy be considered for people?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The use of "The Bulletin" and other media could be used to motivate the public to embrace the efforts of the Council in making these savings. The Council could outline what could be improved even in times of cost saving.; The public will lose faith and confidence in the delivery of services if communication is not positive. More importantly if the reduced services are not delivered efficiently and effectively as possible the public will become frustrated.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There should be more investment in keeping staff. There are currently many staff leaving essential council posts in areas such as social work which costs large amounts of money to replace in recruitment and training.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There has been a lot of pay rises and massive redundancy payouts going to top council staff officials. If services are being cut then so should the practice of paying massive redundancy payouts	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Providing a procurement process which allows establishments to get the best deal would be welcomed. We are wasting money paying for items that could be sourced more cheaply elsewhere.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Investment should be made in roles where people are key to the delivery of that service such as waste management, landscaping, trades, social care, education etc.	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Acceptance of the public to play its part to support the Council should be encouraged. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has community choices, a platform for participatory budgeting with local communities making decisions regarding spend and investment. The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Having a consistent approach to debt recovery by CDT and services may assist in recovery.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Need to ensure that any risks to service delivery are thoroughly assessed.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	The volume of work will need to be cut otherwise there is not going to be enough people left to deliver activity.	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If we are looking at changes to staffing and as a consequence service delivery, we have to be honest and upfront with the public. There will be areas of work that we did in the past but can no longer do due to workforce deficiencies/losses. ; We would, in my opinion, need to consult with the public to get a steer what is palatable to them or not. ; This process needs to be done in a transparent way, and quickly so there can be a lead in time for these changes to be bedded in. ; Looking at non-statutory activities might be a start to the process, but sometimes non statutory work enables some statutory work to be undertaken in a more efficient manner. So, a more comprehensive review might be needed to unpick what activities we can stop from doing.	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	i would like to know if there are ways the council can raise funds, for example through increases in council tax?	4. The council is already doing this.	The consultation includes a proposal of 3.5% increase in council tax across all five years.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council need ti priorities Council housing	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to invest in council housing. We have been engaged in a new build programme delivering thousands of houses over the last decade. As well as this the council regularly repairs, maintains and upgrades it housing stock.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Increase the rent for Local Authority properties to help tackle the associated anti social behaviour and general criminality in these areas.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently consulting on the rent strategy for the next 5 years, with consultees being asked to comment on proposals to increase council rents by either 3.5% or 4%.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	money can be saved by reducing the number of vehicles leased by the council. every day one will see WLC vehicles parked up. if two vehicles are parked up for 2 weeks per month you could reduce one vehicle per month and cancel the lease.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly review fleet requirements and utilisation to ensure best value and that operational needs are met.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop sending the grass cutting teams out in the pouring rain, that will save money! Leave grass verges uncut during summer, this helps wildlife, if the paths are wide enough they shouldn't need to be cut! And, make sure that any ground maintenance is actually done on YOUR land!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop using brand new cars	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly review fleet requirements and utilisation to ensure best value and that operational needs are met.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I work as a school cleaner and see the lack of cleaning done by others, who take long tea breaks during the 4 hour shift. I think management should be aware of this as the work is never checked and it appears to me the council pay wages for staff to sit down and drink tea in the teachers staff bases as opposed to cleaning the class rooms thoroughly.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Far too many staff, I hate to see people out of work but why, for example, is the employees who cut the grass in the summer not the same staff that grit the roads in the winter? Why does this have to be different people? Would training not benefit both the employee and the council? There would be no need for seasonal workers and create job security for employees.	4. The council is already doing this.	The grounds maintenance staff have winter grounds maintenance duties to carry out, their work is not limited to summer tasks. The full time staff grounds maintenance staff are used in the winter grounds maintenance rotas.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Only when safe & manageable. Possible other savings could be investigated too. Moving to electric vehicles / bikes etc could be a saving too. Any journeys of a predetermined distance or purpose should be reviewed to determine the most effective method & thus cost effective.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council need ti priorities youth unemployment	4. The council is already doing this.	This is already a priority for the council. The council is committed to improving employment opportunities for young people, and supports a number of schemes to give access to employment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is already committed to supporting economic development and inward investment in West Lothian.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sorry again we have do not have much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events, Leaving EU etc. My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is already committed to supporting economic development and inward investment in West Lothian.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Why not make it easier for small business and retailers to move into WLC.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is already committed to supporting economic development and inward investment in West Lothian.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The scope of services delivered by the council requires to be reduce. The expectations of the CMT and elected members need to align with what the council requires to deliver.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Hybrid working has been proven to be a very effective model for productivity.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps West Lothian council should seek to revert nursery hours and allow them to close over the Easter and Summer holidays as they previously did before changing the hours without much consultation with staff. Perhaps free nursery hours should be aligned to the school day to cut costs	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is introducing hours aligned to school hours where parents request this provision and capacity allows.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Children need the appropriate staffing levels. I feel if staff numbers are reduced children's teaching will be effected.	4. The council is already doing this.	National class size limits and supervision ratios will continue to be met.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cuts should not be made to the education workforce unless a venue is actually overstaffed.	4. The council is already doing this.	National class size limits and supervision ratios will continue to be met.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	When these changes are made it must be make clear to the public and councillors what effect this will have in service levels. There's no point pretending that thing will continue to be achieved as they were in the past. Unfortunately there are a few councillors who politically don't want to hear this and then have to advise their constituents accordingly.	4. The council is already doing this.	Information on the implication of the changes from budget savings is provided in the annual revenue budget report approved by West Lothian Council. All savings have to be approved. The report is available on the council's website.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	focus more on the actual workers, that do the job, not the ones that sit behind the desks having no clue how hard it is for the normal person to get by	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is too vague. The worry here is you will cut all of these other schemes much more than is transparent here to release the £6.2m. Cuts to workforce often cost you more in the longer term and use of expensive agency/fixed term contracts- need to ensure proper workforce plans in place to ensure service delivery for council services.	4. The council is already doing this.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As long as most of the staffing savings come from loss of senior management posts there is I am sure a saving to be made but taking out staff who work on the front line of services will only result in more things being done badly or not at all	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date but continues to investigate savings and efficiencies in management structures.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am sure there are many teams who could be rearranged to be more efficient.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	you need to spend the council tax money on up grading your old housing stock ie heating cavity wall insulation on prewar housing	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an ongoing maintenance and upgrade program which is budgeted each year with funds from the Housing Revenue Account and other appropriate grant or initiative funding
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council should be using council tradesmen to carry out essential maintenance and work rather than sub contracting to private firms. Invest in giving more apprenticeships into skilled trades and technology	4. The council is already doing this.	The council wherever possible will use its own staff instead of sub-contractors. However there will be instances where this is unavoidable, for example asbestos removal requires the use of licenced contractors from a specific framework. Other examples may be where demand exceeds the capabilities of the workforce and there is a duty to complete the work within a given timeframe. The council already invests in apprenticeships through the organisation
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We need more houses built in livingstone areas and soecual housing fir people like myself with mental health issues eubpd and ptsd I am very un socially able to deal with to many people and if you had safer housing or homes set out fir specific cases such as eg mental health issues pain relief issues and so forth I think wlc would be better and monitored the houses that are occupied but don't stay their I no of at least 2 cases where both houses in sane Street have been left un fixed and un used these people have nit been in those 2 houses for over 1 half years surly you must see that these houses are just left both are you cochrane street Bathgate sorry but I think you should look T your houses and make sure they are all occupied as i left my home in Bonnyrigg for 4 weeks to come heat to see my sister in law and I got reported as a banned my home which I had stay in for 16 years and I end up homeless but those 2 houses are a banned mKes street look awful and 1 person I no only goes their to get mail sorry but y fair	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has been building new homes since 2009 and has also been acquiring ex-council properties through the Open Market Acquisition Scheme. During this time we have added over 2000 properties for customers to access. We are continuing to develop properties and are working with other social landlords in the areas. There are no properties in Cochrane street that have been unoccupied in excess of one year. If you suspect a home is abandoned then you can report this to us for investigation. Please note that not every property in each street is owned by the council
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Take close look at properties especially ones not occupied but say thay ate	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Getting ther.but be faster in the housing for disabled	4. The council is already doing this.	the Council has delivered a significant new build housing programme over the last 10 years, which includes accessible housing.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Can we consider real innovation and transformation that places the customer at the heart, rather than looking at savings in service silos?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Fuel costs could be lowered if van drivers switched off their engines when having a break. It is not uncommon to see council vans sitting at the side of the road with their engines running. Perhaps cargo bikes could be used instead of vans in some instances ?.	4. The council is already doing this.	There are clear rules on the use of council vehicles for all staff. Some vehicles are required to have their engine running to operate ancillary equipment. Any incidents of poor driving practice or misuse of council vehicles can be reported to the council for action. Please contact our Customer Service Centre for assistance.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Workmen/woman could work shifts. Day/back shift/ night including weekends like most employers. Obviously getting paid appropriately for this and this would eliminate overtime.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has shift working in place in a number of service areas to limit the need for overtime working and to better meet customer needs. The shifts are subject to regular review and this will be undertaken as part on current budget plan.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop allowing council vans home, let your workers drive to work in their own vehicle with their own fuel	4. The council is already doing this.	Vehicles may be taken home by employees as part of the arrangements that are in place for those who have standby duties or duties that may require an employee to deploy from home.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	3. Focus of Green area and woodland walks.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	How do we link partnership activities, encourage volunteers, work across agencies to meet the needs of customers and communities?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	As your survey keeps repeating itself with cuts I will repeat my initial questions ok your cuts will save 30.3 million with a budget gap of 36.5 million forcing you to cut staffing to bridge this gap, I ask again how much money was raised from the 20/21 4.84% tax increase and where where those funds allocated??	4. The council is already doing this.	The increase in 2020/21 council tax balanced the budget in that year only. Each year costs increase (they do not stay static) especially with the current high rate of inflation. This means that each year that costs increase, either income has to increase (i.e. further increases in council tax) or expenditure has to be reduced.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps more work should be spent nationally lobbying Scottish Government, and Westminster on ensuring that local authorities are properly funded. Stripping local authorities of staff and reducing services for those children and most vulnerable does not appear to be a sustainable long term solution	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Seems almost pointless to say this, since the cost savings are the only thing that is going to matter. But please, please acknowledge that when you get rid of posts - these are people which are not going to be replaced and this leaves other people in the organisation / department / team carrying out the functions that those people did. Resulting in an overstretched workforce, and many delays in getting tasks completed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I hope that the corporate procurement system is being reviewed. Whilst I fully appreciate the need for the whole system and approach to be in place the council would undoubtedly make significant savings by procuring services and supplies from alternative suppliers on even some of the most basic items and services.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	My 70 year old husband is still in full time employment to enable us to pay full rent and council tax which is a struggle. We are treated with no respect by WLC. and our house is in a bad state of dis-repair. Neighbours pay no rent and can phone and get a new shower after taking a hammer to their old one and say it was damaged by a visitor. Please treat us fairly before putting up rents - we just want respect!	4. The council is already doing this.	Customers who damage their property are re-charged the costs of the repairs.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You'll have volunteers doing all staff roles soon!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Focus on reducing/eliminating greedy, bureaucratic tender processes that leave council departments forced to use contractors and suppliers which are often seriously overpriced.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop cutting services we need, how about looking at the management who waste millions changing bins!! Then spend more millions on bins that speak, absolutely ridiculous, these people should get fired	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Waste Services are provided in accordance with Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop using 3rd party agencies...	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Required works undertaken by appropriate parties.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Could reduce expenditures by allowing the purchase of items more widely available on the internet or in stores rather than always through pecos.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I'm wondering if outlaying more money in the tendering department and allowing people to purchase from other systems apart from PICOS might help reduce costs in a similar way.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More savings could be made from poor procurement management and from reducing numbers of officers and management tiers within the council.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Remove education officers and all of the ex teachers who work at the civic centre in the guise of "education".	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Peccos for schools on a practical level leads to massive overspend by reducing options and better service and reduced cost, to the PT of the department. It has led to crippling school departments, thus providing a lesser quality experience for the pupils	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council's procurement strategy ensures that best value is secured in line with best value audits.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We are expected to pay Council Tax at the same if not an increased cost so front line services should not be cut, focusing more on back office support	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Having put out 75 new bins at 5000 each and 9ver 30 vandilised I always question council finance, someone is making money off this bad that got to lay at (redacted) and (redacted) feet.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter which determines best practice for household services. The new twin stream service will improve the quality of material recycled and save money on disposal costs
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop allowing the incessant building of huge housing estates!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is committed to providing appropriate development in line with national planning policy and the development plan.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Procurement could be simplified, too many processes to authorise payments. Also, should be more open to using different suppliers as we end up overpaying for some products e.g. a jacket on Amazon might be half the price of one the exact same from Arco but we have to purchase it from Arco as they're the approved supplier.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The use of PECOS in education needs to be scrapped as it is not cost effective. The companies e.g Hope education charge schools a fortune for resources which can be sourced elsewhere at cheaper prices.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cutbacks to hours within the schools could allow parents to prersue other opportunities for children and access to other learning pathways or modules therefor children should not be expected to remain in school without adequate teaching staff present. In this scenario parents should be given the choice to remove children early or perhaps they could attend one less day unless of course the child in question is at risk and is better off at school. This could be a negotiated pre planned scenario that might sound complicated now but could in turn reduce over head costs and staging needs at those off peak times.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	No staff means no help for the people so the people shouldn't pay council tax anymore cost of living lies from government means we shouldn't pay that either	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	i do not understand why the council would even think of taking this service away it's an excellent company and staff needs our support.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Are you allowed to do financial checks on council house tenants to review whether they still require housing support? There are a lot of people that I personally know - let alone the ones I don't - who get the house during a tough financial time for them, and then get themselves on track and are rolling in the money but have no plans to move because they pay £250 a month instead of 700. This seems like a money waster and a waste of council housing which is so desperately required.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Customers are not required to have a specific income to remain in social housing. Whatever their circumstances, once a customer signs for a permanent tenancy they hold a secure tenancy agreement which guarantees them that tenancy under agreement and can also include succession from family members when they die.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Lets have a look at the procurement system which is used by West Lothian Council. When making any type of purchase we are at liberty to do this vis Pecos which is a subsidiary of Ecommerce who generate trillions of pounds world wide for its owners annually.; I have been given permission to make purchases of materials for several years through Pecos and when price checking with local and smaller retailing companies these materials were costing 50% less for the items I could purchase from companies who were not on the Pecos listing of permitted retailers. How can this be justified other than large profits gained by the persons or Governments instructed by the ecommerce sector to use as the only means of purchase for our local authorities.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Lets have a look at the procurement system which is used by West Lothian Council. When making any type of purchase we are at liberty to do this vis Pecos which is a subsidiary of Ecommerce who generate trillions of pounds world wide for its owners annually. I have been given permission to make purchases of materials for several years through Pecos and when price checking with local and smaller retailing companies these materials were costing 50% less for the items I could purchase from companies who were not on the Pecos listing of permitted retailers. How can this be justified other than large profits gained by the persons or Governments instructed by the ecommerce sector to use as the only means of purchase for our local authorities.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Lets have a look at the procurement system which is used by West Lothian Council. When making any type of purchase we are at liberty to do this vis Pecos which is a subsidiary of Ecommerce who generate trillions of pounds world wide for its owners annually.; I have been given permission to make purchases of materials for several years through Pecos and when price checking with local and smaller retailing companies these materials were costing 50% less for the items I could purchase from companies who were not on the Pecos listing of permitted retailers. How can this be justified other than large profits gained by the persons or Governments instructed by the ecommerce sector to use as the only means of purchase for our local authorities.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In addition, much of the inefficiency, delay and rework is self-inflicted by poorly designed policies (such as Standing Orders) which sets limits for Quick Quotes/tenders etc which are significantly less than that allowed by legislation. Much focus has been on achieving compliance rather than obtaining value.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	put up the rents for all the council tenants that receive full housing benefit!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Customers are not required to have a specific income to remain in social housing. Whatever their circumstances, once a customer signs for a permanent tenancy they hold a secure tenancy agreement which guarantees them that tenancy under agreement and can also include succession from family members when they die.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Get rid of PCOS - be flexible with suppliers - it will save a fortune	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Pecos system. I regularly ask to order items that I know we could source for far less from other providers. However if they are not on pecos then I cannot order from them. Surely this would save a considerable amount of money in every dept area?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Using "PECOS" as the contracted service to order in resources for schools is such a waste of money! Schools should be able to order the best product for the best price instead of being made to order through a 3rd party.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We have pecos that is not fit for purpose (needs replaced) as within schools cannot deal with specialist goods/resources	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	With regards to the number of systems for financial support would it not save money leaving the purchase of food and goods in education using home delivery from local shops rather than the two providers where they are double in money and not as good quality.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Pecos is costing a fortune compared to 'on the street' prices....especially for cleaning products. have a look at product pricing compared to what you would pay in a shop and explore ways of buying from businesses who supply high street stores.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We do have a 5-star rating electronics repair business in Livingston, but, each time schools are asked to do business with them, they say we have to go to the council. If we really care about the environment, and we really care what we're saying, why do we fix so little and buy so much new stuff? Why we can't go to our local electronics repair shop, fix more, save more and look into local people's eyes better?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing cuts must be made at senior executive level only.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The use of third parties should be reduced to zero, of there are functions that only these third parties can deliver, these must be brought back in house to reduce cost (they can ALL be brought back in cheaper)	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	There are certain specialist services that it is more efficient to procure from third parties than to provide for in house
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I am not a manager I work for Westlothian council and I know how hard things are right now and the council keeps putting rent up each April and living on my own I'm finding this hard	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Home care should be brough back into the Council and save costs going to private care providers.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If there is a saving of £6.2 million, this should be spent on facilities to help children progress at sports. There is a huge gap for a 50m Olympic pool in west lothian, particularly livingston if it seeks city status. Xcite livingston is well behind the times, its a play park in water. It will not breed talented swimmers. Livingston xcite needs a state of the art gym and pool for the community	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut the bin men and use a third party to provide this service please. They've proven to be much more efficient and cheaper through the strikes.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Offer staff over 50 early retirement/voluntary redundancy attractive packages - pretty sure savings will be made!	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	, open tips more don't need to be manned but will reduce time and effort on clearing up fly tipping !	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	i feel the elderly would benefit also from free meals	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Do staffing levels have to be reduced and people lose jobs can a slight cut in wages be an alternative at least keep their jobs or another alternative job with a little less pay offered.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Recruitment and retention of suitably qualified staff to deliver essential services to communities is currently very challenging. This would not be possible as the council needs to continue to have staff to deliver essential services.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop using agency workers in care homes. WLC have a Locum which should be used..	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I take it the no compulsory redundancies rule is joining away?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	NO one should need or be paid more than £30k a year. unless they are a nhs doctor/surgeon.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	re look at your staffing levels, double check which staff are employed in the private sector as well as self employed prior to reducing staff numbers. In my view the staff with other income should go first.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If possible consider getting rid of unions too as thier constant moaning and strike action is costing us all more money and reducing possible service delivery efficiency and wasting money.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More redundancies	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think the council is spending two much money on building houses	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use all responses to the consultation to support the review of priorities and commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop wasting money on managers, contractors, workers sitting around doing nothing, multicoloured bins, inclusion ie LGBT agendas, climate agendas	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Scrap school uniforms, that will save on grants.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	School uniforms help foster a sense of community and prevent comparison of clothing between children. Even if uniforms were no longer required, the council would still have to provide clothing grants to ensure that vulnerable children are appropriately clothed.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	When it comes to council house building it is infuriating to see semi detached and features such as patio doors. Council housing is there to supply accommodation and this isn't necessarily the same values as a private house owner. Basic houses with reduced building costs is an approach more would like to see taken on board.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Council housing stock when built is made to modern standards in line with numerous items of legislation. Homes are produced for lower costs through savings from larger construction programmes and government grants. Normal features of a home should not be denied to someone because they live in social housing and their quality of home should not be sub-standard
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cycle path cost a massive amount and doesn't get used so much.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council needs to review the substantial resources wasted on the Corporate Transformation and Digital Teams. The council does need support for these activities but would argue to date that these teams have not delivered (despite substantial money being provided) and savings are often delivered by services in spite of any support from these teams.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Corporate Transformation Team supports the planning and delivery of modern council services and is responsible for developing the councils strategic vision for Digital Transformation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sounds sensible. Staffing within direct customer facing services should be preserved, but support and advisory type roles should be cut back. Outsource your core IT functions, Outsource HR functions, Outsource Facilities functions, look for fixed price contracts. Change some terms and conditions, to be more in line with private sector, get rid of underperforming and inefficient staff more quickly. Reduce the over generous sick leave pay periods you currently provide staff.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Quicker turnover needed of vacant units. You can see places boarded up for ages. Also, council tenants that cannot be bothered maintaining gardens should be relocated to flats and those that do want a garden e.g. families, given homes with access to a garden instead. Alternatively tenants that fail to maintain garden spaces should be charged for this.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Customers are not required to meet any visual requirements for their gardens unless it poses a health risk in which case the council would discuss with customers. Some customers are choosing more wildlife oriented gardens which are better for the natural environment than a short grass lawn. The council conducts garden inspections each year at a scheduled time and also when customers raise a complaint.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council vehicles are used by staff for personal purposes. Identify these people and sack them.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Vehicles may be taken home by employees as part of the arrangements that are in place for those who have standby duties or duties that may require an employee to deploy from home.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduce sickness benefit. Stop sickness benefit for first week of illness and this may reduce the amount of staff off ill.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	1L Consider converting some units or services to workers Coops giving the workers an opportunity to provide the service to the council and others at a reduced cost to current budgets. Service contract for 5 years to get the new business started with agreed savings target.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Have pupils cleaning their own schools. Great for discipline and learning.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The proposal would also be likely to be illegal.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Fine tenants that do not follow their tenancy agreement to keeping their garden to a certain standard.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	There is no 'standard' that tenants need to meet beyond removing any environmental hazards. There is no requirement to keep a short lawn and many customers are enjoying creating 'wild gardens' that boost natural wildlife and biodiversity. If you feel that a tenants garden is a hazard then please speak to the local housing office who will investigate and work to resolve any actual issues
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Reduction in staff numbers is inevitable in some areas. There has already been a reduction in service delivery standards in some areas which is already very noticeable, so the council has to be careful. Gully cleaning for example - the cleaning cycle used to be once a year which very rarely happened, although according to certain people, this function was performing adequately. But now it's taking something like three years complete the cycle, that's if it ever gets completed. Hence the reason for the floods, water running along the road at half the width of the carriageway and ponding water everywhere. It's nothing to do with climate change. it's purely and simply a lack of drainage maintenance.; This service needs to be externalised in order to provide the residents of West Lothian the service it deserves. Keeping this function in-house is expensive and inefficient. Councillors need to accept this function has to be externalised.; ; Another basic function which is lacking is road sweeping. This goes hand in hand with the drainage maintenance. The material that doesn't get cleaned from the road ends up in the drainage system causing blockages and this is then more expensive to rectify through excavation and replacement.; ; The lack of verge and tree trimming is also very apparent and has now been a practice that has gone on too long, to the extent that there are now many dangerous and very untidy locations on our roads where sight lines are obscured by long grass and overgrown trees. Many road-signs are also obscured, and you can drive past them without even knowing they are there. I feel this has been a false economy over the years. Possibly another part of the service which could be externalised? Although, for some time now, it just hasn't been happening.; ; to Service delivery has already been	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Road repairs: drainage improvements are assessed and carried out by the council as necessary.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Remove all diversity and inclusion roles and stop paying money to political organisations like stonewall. Focus on the content of a person's character rather than D&I box ticking.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is committed to tackling discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and promoting good relations both within our workforce and the wider community. We have a duty to consider how we can work to tackle discrimination and accelerate progress towards equality for all.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Traffic wardens will make money in certain area.;	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	WHERE IS EVERYONE THAT IS ON COMMUNITY SERVICE, THEY COULD BE PICKING UP LITTER DOING COUNCIL JOBS FREE	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	This has previously been investigated, however it is not possible to use this approach. The work of the council is not assessed as appropriate for this type of work.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cutting budgets is never an easy decision to make as there will ultimately be consequences to every decision. Without a doubt being more efficient and looking at the way processes work and the services that are delivered goes without saying. I think that council could be smarter in the way it is operated, communication between departments could be better and overall being accountable for each and every penny that is spent is a must and should be the case in every department, with more and more questions asked.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	When a house is taken back it is stripped when good flooring etc could be cleaned and reused	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This would be an issue for the relevant landlord
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps we need to go back to contracting out some services - or is this a false economy too?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	First; Vehicle should be next 4 vans for 4 workmen is an extravagance and not necessary	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There is still the reputation of some of the council workforce not providing value for money in terms of job costs and time allocation especially those working in the public eye and providing repair services etc	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	This is of huge concern, but I understand the situation. If I could suggest investment in IT services (such as making all resources electronic rather than printed / paper and investing in universal electronic resources or at least the right resources appropriate to staff duties) this could help cut costs long term. As previously mentioned, my laptop isn't fit for the role I am required to fulfil and I am unable to connect to most of the projectors, smartboards / promethean panels in WLC properties without a work around or adapter. Also, is there an unknown reason why ".gov.uk" and ".org.uk" emails are so different? Is "glow" effective (on the assumption you use this for education)? I can't even have ".org.uk" emails respond to a voting button as it doesn't allow them too. Again, I would stress standardisation throughout, unless there is a good reason not to have it?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Being in business. Bring in good quality supported events for the town. No xmas market	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Appropriate strategy to be reviewed
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Do something good, do something that the community will be proud of.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Further comprehensive detail on this is essential given the scale of funding gap identified	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Talk to your staff who do the jobs and see what they think can be improved/done differently as they are the ones doing the job they will know.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If things are being contracted out, that is where you start looking at cutting back	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing losses should not include those involved in supporting our most vulnerable.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Please ensure level of service at various areas do not drop.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You would have to lose a lot of staff to make that saving! This is not always the best solution. How about savings from staff working from home? Not using offices and desks and reducing buildings?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staffing in most cases are our best resource but staff who are not performing need to be "let go" sooner , this process is currently inefficient .	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has a robust approach to performance management. Opportunities to refine and improve processes are welcomed and considered within the parameters of employment legislation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Identifying what reas is needing reduction rather than numbers.; ; Such as sickness levels and policies around this ; ; Reducing times spent rather than numbers.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has a robust approach to attendance at work. Opportunities to refine and improve processes are welcomed and considered within the parameters of employment legislation.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Could we look at areas and services where we could work in partnership with other councils to create a service that works across local authorities and that shares resources?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Opportunities to work in partnership with other local authorities and community planning partners will be investigated.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	SAvings can be identified where we can look at our staff carrying out works that are being put out to sub contractors.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Yes - get rid of the dead wood. Streamline the organisation and its processes. Measure staff on output and performance, change the culture, improve the leadership, increase motivation and productivity.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Huge money saver would be doing repairs properly 1st time instead of redoing same repairs over and over and over again.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The majority of repairs completed by Housing Customer & Building Services are completed 'right first time' and satisfaction for the service remains extremely high.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Winchburgh needs the train station reopened	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with partner organisations to maximise benefit to our local communities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps the remit could change and there could be more interdepartmental joined up working to stop duplication and waste.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Need to be wary of reducing staff in certain areas as the consequence may be greater burden in other areas.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I only agree with not replacing high end managers when they retire. Or replace them with one grade below.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Additionally, some staff exhibit great care and attention to their work and are a pleasure to deal with. There appears to be a wide discrepancy in performance.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has clear policies and procedures in place to support the effective management of our workforce. Many of our staff regularly go above and beyond for customers in the services that they deliver. Where any of our employees have failed to meet the expected standards, managers are required to take action, in line with our policies and procedures, to support, train or counsel staff in order to help them improve.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Not a surprise but staff will likely have higher workloads or still expected to provide a high quality service with less time and resources. Back to technology if this was sleeker and customers and staff are considered before implementing that may help. Customer demands are higher than they used to be. They expect everything and now. Maybe re-educate them.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Staff (operational) should be involved in this process as often those who make decision are unaware of processes and procedures and how this affects operational staff!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. Part of this will include working with staff to develop and implement changes to service delivery and processes where appropriate.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Don't know where to save, but you have to look into paying a higher rate for care staff, they are, under paid, sickness level is ridiculous because ppl are taking advantage of the 6 month full pay as they are stressed, pushed to their limit and feel very undervalued, it has to change as the care sector is lost.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The scale of the further reductions required over the next five years will be challenging and the council will seek to use the existing range of workforce management and organisational change policies to deliver the required reductions in staffing numbers.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cuts can be made by putting reablement and domcare back to one, ppl need care,	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Procurement does not have a wide enough range of partners and needs further competition to imprve	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	recycling centres should be open on a rotational basis allowing staff to travel between sites on different days	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I think West Lothian is certainly looking a bit worse since the reduction of grass cut, weeding etc but I totally understand the need for the reduction. If we are able to sow some wild flower seed in the overgrown area's they might not look as unkempt. Maybe the local communities would be happy to help out with some area's if the council showed some encouragement and advice. As people are more aware of the lack of funding to keep the area's we live in respectable. I have noticed more people planting in borders on the main streets.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Recycling services could be reduced. I feel the brown bin does not need emptied every two weeks and could go to once a month. Across the whole of West Lothian this would concur a significant saving. Other collections could be reviewed such as larger grey bins again so their could be longer times between collections. I feel the green and blue bins are needing emptied fortnightly though and that should continue.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Hi, I don't have the time or expertise to critique all council services but just want to say a bit about grass-cutting. I support the wilding of certain areas like the centre of roundabouts but feel it's important to still 'keep nature at bay' to a degree, so keep trimming the edges of roundabouts and verges. Also, promoting more voluntary work eg round deer Park there are people including myself who strim public areas and keep the verges tidy. I know there are vol litter pickers too. I empathise with the mess that some of the gardens in council estates are getting into, so suspect you need to prioritise those areas (as this is your housing stock) but MOST OF US are capable of doing our bit to help out, especially some of those on benefits and the early retired. The more volunteers seen out and about doing stuff the more a virtuous circle can be set up whereby others suddenly feel a wee bit motivated to help out as well... it's not all doom and gloom even though I empathise with the Bathgate councillor who commented recently that society was 'de-evolving'. It can seem that way but we must try to stay hopeful and do our best with the resources we have, including you guys 😊; All the Best,***** (redacted)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Also recycle centres opened less days in the week?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Pity you didn't stop wasting money on things like smart talking bins that hot trashed and replaced.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Please review these services and close them where you can. Either on certain days or at least during times when they are not well used. Other councils do this; community centres; community recycling centres ; hedge trimming ; grass cutting; school transport; concessionary rail travel	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The cycle track in Linlithgow too. That was a huge spend and will only benefit a small number of people. That's not wise spending.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This was an additional budget provided by the Scottish Government during the pandemic, not a council budget.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	It must be a very hard job to save £30.3 million, but it's not about the math, it's about the people. It is just sad we are unable to invest.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Essential services are exactly that, essential. But Operational services should have a reduction in the amount of management there is. The number of supervisors right now far out ways the actual need .	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date but continues to investigate savings and efficiencies in management structures.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	, sell off old buildings , rent them out	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This is considered in question 21. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Why not sell off the empty council properties that have been empty for over 4 years	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This is considered in question 21. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Consolidating office space, with bookable desks may assist in reducing use of lighting/heating etc in CC and therefore costs	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This is considered in question 21. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Having people do two trips for one job like grass cutting etc.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Externalising cafe provision may offer income or attracting people to come in as a hub, and offering front line services at CC could encourage use and access to services? ;	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	There seems to be a lot of team leader/supervisor roles within certain departments that could perhaps use the worker role more than the supervisors role, perhaps training some of the men to be able to cover other aspects of jobs eg, operational services grass cutting squads refuse to pick up litter and dog fouling as it's "not there job" then you have the litter picking squads being asked to cut back a fallen tree or some fly tipping but again it's "not there job" and pass it to the right dept who turn up in the same vehicles with the same orange hi vis clothing. it seems odd that within the department it is split into little groups, grass cutting, litter picking, road repairs, can they not work together?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	There are elements of generic (cross service/trade) working in place however this could be expanded as part of service restructures.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Have more skips around for the sweeper machines, some have to travel miles to empty after 10 mins working as it gets full quickly, or have patches of land where they can then tip it to be used as a compost for local communities and gardens	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop spending money on gala preparations and outdated marches, which incidentally do not happen in other areas of the country.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I feel a lot of money is wasted within the council on things that are bought at cheaper prices but then have to be restocked more often as they don't last	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is bound by regulations contained in the Public Procurement Legislation which set out the procedures to be followed at each stage of the procurement process leading to the award of contracts within certain spend thresholds.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council can also save multi £m's by stopping council vans being used to take employees to/from work every day. Savings on fuel/wear & tear of vans would also save £m's.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. The survey contains specific questions regarding school transport.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Would also be good to look at further building rationalisation including schools and community centres, energy savings measures including reducing the number of swimming pools significantly, looking for savings in use of vehicles.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council will continue to rationalise offices and utilise the partnership centre model across West Lothian. This includes identifying opportunities for closer working with partners.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	In light of changing circumstances, the Third Sector can be commissioned to deliver essential supports to individuals and communities. The sector is trusted by communities and is agile, innovative and focussed on the needs of people. This is likely to be a more effective and cost efficient solution.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision (e.g. by the third sector).
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Please centralise your limited resources from the east Broxburn to the west fauldhouse for example - have specified days with dedicated transport from the outlying areas eg private free/ minimum payment transport to access these resources - I have personally used the PC resources in Livingston while searching or applying for work my recommendation would be to open the old Debenhams store for access to library / advice / support networks 7 days a week -	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The Council will review how to make best use of council facilities to maximise availability of services to customers. The council will also maximise opportunities to further develop digital services.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Sub contractors are awful. You save more by actually taking care of your properties instead of just leaving everything...to save yourselves money! 'Renovated' my building 10yrs ago and I'm STILL waiting for it to be finished so I can get my decoration allowance. It even had its own special woman working only on that, I left it with her as she suggested. I've reported this and various other things and nothings ever been done. You just waste money	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an ongoing maintenance and upgrade program which is budgeted each year with funds from the Housing Revenue Account and other appropriate grant or initiative funding. If there has been a failure in service please raise a formal complaint and this will be investigated by senior management and reviewed by the Head of Service
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	A complete overhaul of practices and requirements is required. However a lot of this could be achieved without impacting greatly on public services	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Think need to be setting customer expectations things like weeding, clear ups need public to help with these things and pride in community.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Please get better coffee in the Civic Centre cafe and barista training for staff. Better coffee will make us all more efficient and raise income.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We have to maintain key services such as - refuge, roads education, lighting etc. Without these the council won't be able to encourage investment and prosper and continue to spiral. Look at reducing the extremities - the sheer waste of money on supposed 'community' wants such as notice boards, floodlighting, benches etc is not what the majority want the budget to be spent on.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop spraying every grass and hedge intersection with weedkiller. Also in general tolerate more plant growth. Use less of the toxic chemicals.; Ask your biodiversity employees for advice.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I would like the opportunity of the residents to have their say and to clean up all of the areas in West Lothian	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Re-organisation and re-prioritisation in NETs, Land & Countryside. Within Nets, Land & Countryside the tree and woodland asset must comprise at least 50%, if not more, of the total asset by land area but is cared for with <5% of the resources of the N, L&C Team. For decades since LA reorganisation and the demise of Livingston Development Corporation this large asset has been largely neglected across the WLC area with work being undertaken on an ad hoc basis. For some reason previously well-funded Openspace projects (funded from developer contributions and other funding) plus the Revenue funding for NETs, L & C has largely gone on items such as benches, sculptures, grass cutting etc. Possibly because some people think that trees, because they don't need attention multiple times a year, have no need for pro-active cyclical work. There has been a large allocation of funding for Climate Change and Nature Recovery Fund plus 3 additional staff. This appears to be being spent on some projects which, although may be good for raising awareness, are only likely to have limited real value on the ground. Ensuring that we are able to look after the resources we already manage is more important than adding to these or undertaking small scale biodiversity projects, otherwise planting new trees is just like a "leaky bucket". Virtually all tree and woodland work contributes to the council's long-term Climate Change and Biodiversity recovery aims - probably more than many other land management actions bar the restoration of our larger peatland areas and controlling development on greenfield sites. Bringing the 100s of hectares (approx 1000ha+ plus the >20k individual trees in parks, on roadsides) back into pro-active management plus trying to advise Planning on appropriate tree protection and planting for new developments is a big task with the resources available and suggest that the Tree & Woodland Team is strengthened with appropriately trained and experienced officer and technical support. This would be much more cost effective than some of the projects being undertaken externally.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. The council will consider the various points you have raised in your comment when assessing the option.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Decision makers need to have a better understanding of the implications any decisions will have on services. Whilst this is seen as a numbers game to make the required savings; not enough consideration has been given to the impact upon staff remaining in the past.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Take on private factoring to generate additional income.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will consider all opportunities to generate additional income
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We were promised a little bin at the bus stop in Bank Street Mid Calder over a year ago. Where the (redacted) is it? An old fashioned one will do. We do not need one that answers back.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Can you explain WHY there are building services employees, but much of the work is sub contacted out, where the cost is ultimately higher to the Council. Pay your tradespeople a better wage and use their skills instead of the sub contractors- who pay their staff better too	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	There are points when the council may need to use contractors for very specialist works (like asbestos) and also to maintain performance when there are fluctuations in staff resourcing levels. The labour market can be highly competitive and, like any other business, there are periods when it is more difficult to recruit the right staff.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps give (redacted) a big pay cut. He doesn't seem to do anything for his big salary. Better still, sack (redacted). (redacted) seems to do all the hard work anyway.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	So you've no idea how to save this money so just assume you'll get rid of staff? Seems a jump	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I recognise it is difficult to identify a full £36.5m of savings at this period. However there are many discretionary services that the council delivers that should be reviewed and either stopped or reduced. These should be the focus of changes to service delivery.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I and many others feel the government and council seem to jump through hoops for people from other places, before you look after local people. Complete slap in the face to local people, as local people are struggling.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council delivers services to people living and working in West Lothian. Support is available for those who require it. The Anti-Poverty Service provides advice and support to help people alleviate poverty. It is available to all residents to help them get additional support to help with the cost of living.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Our tenants are advised by call centre staff they will get a call back with x amount of time. Our office is already 2 members of staff down due to secondment as well as long term sickness and holidays. Customers need to be advised that waiting times on call backs, visits and application process times will take longer due to staff reductions	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The Council will seek to maintain or improve customer service standards and will review targets and advise customers of any changes to service standards where this is deemed to be appropriate.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The C.I.S are still appointment only for some reason, they are seeing hardly anyone in person and sit about most of the day in Strathbrock seeing no-one, if people come in looking for help they are turned away because they have no appointment even although there are free staff doing nothing, appalling. Pool cars could also go half of them sit at Strathbrock all day doing nothing.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If you have a complaint about a service received or the conduct of a staff member please use register a complaint with us. These complaints will be investigated and responded to formally. As well as this complaints are monitored by our regulator the Scottish Public Sector Authority
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The cost of OH appointments are also high and I don't know any managers who find the reports helpful.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council need to sort my housing before I'll even consider offering my opinion. The council ignores me constantly and is costing me 2 houses to pay for. My next step is to take my housing situation to all media outlets.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Was that a summary saying fewer staff and less wages for all? Do we have a Tory local council? Did I accidentally move to England?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The SNP need to GO.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Unfortunate	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council should value the Third Sector and work in partnership with the many organisations who provide so much and alleviate many strains on council resources. It is important that staff is not cut to the point that service delivery greatly suffers and whilst saving should be made our representatives need to be fighting for rmore.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The Council is committed to work in partnership with the Third Sector, this is demonstrated through strategic planning and joint delivery examples through commissioned activity and grant funding. The Council's strong relationship with the Third Sector will remain.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	mir"E%"\$	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Service delivery?; You actually have to be providing a service in the first place.; Recently contacted council by phone, waited 25 mins to speak and the operator was very unhelpful!; Complained and found that I was correct!; Sure if I rang again this week, be the same outcome!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	the swimming pools and gyms I would rely on your usage figures for options plus if I ever win the lottery I will open a dedicated ice rink for all West Lothian people for ice hockey and figure station training really miss that my kids loved it	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Let's be honest looking at grass verges etc you all sit on your backside anyeay	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Happy for XXX XXXX to be made redundant due to his inability to forward plan and support communities. Winchburgh - promised railway station now not happening. Linlithgow - over 100 CALA homes approved and no new infrastructure to support traffic. False promises that are never met.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council is committed to working with partner organisations to maximise benefit to our local communities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	offer more services for children etc	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	dont employ 3 party workmen who charge much more and do a poor job with no follow up.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council wherever possible will use its own staff instead of sub-contractors. However there will be instances where this is unavoidable, for example asbestos removal requires the use of licenced contractors from a specific framework. Other examples may be where demand exceeds the capabilities of the workforce and there is a duty to complete the work within a given timeframe. The council already invests in apprenticeships through the organisation
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop allocating Council workmen hours to unblock toilets fixing doors I could go on and on... plus, when new employees start as a joiner for instance, and finishes fixing a door handle within 15 minutes, but the long standing employees and firemen bully the new employees to take longer doing jobs.... 2 hours longer!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure in service please raise a formal complaint and this will be investigated by senior management and reviewed by the Head of Service
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	If you go into blackburns library, there is usually 2-3 staff members sitting doing nothing except chatting, I even pointed this out to a staff member & he said yeh its a great job here cos we dont do a lot !!! Same with the council side of it, staff members not doing much & when you want to ask anything they say you need to make an app & we finish at 3, its defo went downhill since it moved.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure in service please raise a formal complaint and this will be investigated by senior management and reviewed by the Head of Service
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Library hours	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The Council has a legislative requirement to provide library facilities and will review the most effective means of delivering this service, taking account of demand and opportunities to access activities which currently take place in libraries from other community facilities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Aye your all about saving, we've been ignored for major mould infestation and damp for 2 years!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council's repair teams resolve repairs on average within 9 days so this would be an unusual case. If there has been a failure in service please raise a formal complaint and this will be investigated by senior management and reviewed by the Head of Service

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Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Again, you don't give a flying fig about your properties, not you living with asbestos and black mold so why care about those who are	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council spends millions of pounds every year to maintain and improve its properties. It does so in line with energy initiatives and the Scottish Housing Quality Standard for example. These requirements are monitored by regulatory bodies. Asbestos is a managed product and the council performs its duties in line with the Health and Safety Executive. Asbestos being present in a property does not present a danger unless the asbestos is disturbed. If you are a tenant and have a concern about asbestos then speak to your local housing office who can make a referral to the asbestos team. Please note again that having a suspected asbestos product in your home would not necessarily be sufficient reason for removal. For example, artex on a ceiling. The council investigates all complaints of dampness. mould in council properties. Where remedial works are required the council will ensure that these works are undertaken. In many cases this is caused by excessive condensation/ moisture in the home and you can resolve those issues yourself. Please see https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/44303/Dampness-in-Homes for some more information.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	You put rents up folk will be homeless. This is so boring I've had enough now	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	the Council is currently consulting on the rent strategy for the next 5 year period, with tenants being asked to comment on proposed rent increase of 3.5% and 4%. Council rents support delivery of a reactive housing management service for tenants, a property maintenance service and delivery of new build council houses.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Better working practices between social care and NHS	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I have a snack bar but can't get it up and running due to the council want the planning permission payment and street trader money all in one go give us a chance to make money so we can pay for thing like this	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Through the Council's Business Gateway Service support is tailored to meet the needs and requirements of individual businesses.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Mill Centre is a total eyesore and no action to improve the towns only shops. Pupils living in Blackburn are embarrest to take friends there to ship. Disgusting!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Music tuition will continue, including opportunities to access instruments, The expansion of out of school care may provide opportunities such as learning cooking skills.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Close any defined benefit pension schemes and replace with defined contribution.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I feel it is all about votes before people. It is absolutely disgusting that in 2022 that people are relying on Food banks, people are homeless, cannot afford to heat their homes, are jobless, nhs and social care is a joke (not) basically the whole country is a complete mess. This mess has been caused by the government and local councils, including West Lothian Council. Complete and utter shambolic mess, it's like living in a 3rd world country. When Livingston Development Corporation we're in charge things were so much better. The government and West Lothian Council are needing to get their act together, what a mess and the British tax payer is paying for this.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Council staff worked all the way through the pandemic. They deserve more than this. Can't you get those who can afford it, to pay more? When did you last revisit council tax band allocations?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Stop freezing people rents this does not help deficits.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The rent cap is to be introduced by Scottish Government and is beyond the council's control. The rent cap and proposed moratorium on eviction will still allow evictions where the rent owed is in excess of a prescribed level.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The Ukraine scheme you ran and run is a mess.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This is the responsibility of the UK Government and Scottish government
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The Ukraine scheme you ran and run is a mess.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This is the responsibility of the UK government and Scottish government
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Try limiting pay... not of the people who actually do productive work; but of the useless, parasitic stuffed-shirts. Cap WLC executive/senior salaries at £60K - the high salary executive culture is attracting only the greediest and most corrupt.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Holyrood needs to be held to account. What is being done to protect jobs and services .	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut staff cut services not a good idea, why not cut the extremely generous pensions that take up a fair percentage of council tax revenue and bring it into line with normal pensions the rest of us have to live with	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures, staffing requirements and terms and conditions of employment. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut pay at the top.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut the chief's wages to a living wage	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Instead of cutting staffing levels, cut the wages of those at the top who are earning and obscene amount of money for the little work that they do.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The Scottish Government should stick to it's day job, the whole country is a shambles, very depressing reading	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Does anyone in the council actually believe in serving the community? Why not fight to keep funding because if you truly care, gross excesses can be found in National Government that can easily cover this, especially the crazy ideas of education and leisure reductions.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The Scottish Government determine the funding envelope for local government, which for the forthcoming years is to be frozen despite substantial increases in prices. The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Cut down the number of councillors and their fees for attending things	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The number of councillors is determined by Boundaries Scotland.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Has the council looked at increases to council tax? I appreciate this is a difficult time to propose increased costs, but perhaps the most affluent bands could be looked at, with least affluent areas left alone so as not to negatively impact those facing the greatest cost pressures.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I blame Scottish Government, they have made a mess	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Why when a budget is drawn up is it that services have to be reduced for tax payers? There must be the ability to cut down on spending elsewhere such as travel costs for council staff members, perks that come with some senior members of staffs jobs, free meals for certain employees. Also a review of Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and Housing Benefits On a regular basis to ensure these are only being provided to those that are in desperate need of them.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We need to stop paying Billions to the French to stop immigrants coming in as it is not working and then the savings here could be cut by half.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	We do not support cuts to police, ambulance or fire services.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Instead of charging for these maybe Councillors could go back to working on a voluntary basis and use public transport rather than cars even when on official business rather than using official cars or their own cars and claiming expenses.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Very sad situation. Support from core government is required	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Has to be acceptance that you can't get the same output with fewer staff.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	ok wish the government would stop giving themselves big payouts and give the money to the services and the country they are put in to represent you should not have to cut anything if the money was giving out right	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Government policies over the last few years has resulted in local authorities and citizens bearing the brunt of these fiscally disasterous strategies, which we will be paying for decades. Local councillors have a duty to raise this with central government in Scotland and Westminster, and to demand that the people of the United Kingdom are prioritised over foreign wars and policies that very clearly are detrimental to the economic wellbeing of the country.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Bring services in line with the English Parish Council practice, provide the right regulations and financial support to local areas to run their own affairs	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The denial of democracy in West Lothian through the Labour Party, Conservative Party and Lib Dems working together in a de facto (but undisclosed/unadmitted) coalition, to deny the, by far, largest group with the largest support of the West Lothian electorate, is morally despicable. As such, this process of consultation is fundamentally flawed and lacking in democratic legitimacy. Any such proposals should be included in the respective political manifestos prior to election of the councillors. The sub-committees should be formed by councillors in a manner directly reflecting the "first-preference" votes of the people - and directly relateable to the said manifestos. This situation is non-existent in WLC.; So, the presentation of arbitrary "funding gaps", as decided by this coalition and it's policies is spurious. If you cannot accept and respect my vote then you are not fit for office and I won't respect you or your chosen process.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment, the council proposes to use responses to the consultation to support the review of council services, prioritisation and decision making.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Can we remove universal provision (eg breakfast clubs) for people who do not qualify for low income support?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Some universal provision is required by legislation. In other cases, the Council has made decisions when setting its budget.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Perhaps if ms sturgeon could manage to allocate the money to the correct areas and not squirrel it away for independence we would all have a better life ; We are concerned the effect these cuts will have on the public especially those who need it most ie our children and our senior citizens. ; ; Please think about your staff Those who will loose their jobs and those who will be expected to keep the services running	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The Scottish Government determine funding for local government from the overall Scottish Budget. Councils have been lobbying consistently for fairer funding for local government to protect local services. The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The council needs to be more innovative and look at savings through earlier intervention and prevention and using data to target more resources more effectively. Why does the council spend so much money on B&B for homelessness, would it not be better to spend money on addressing underlying issues? Can we look at the reasons young people leave home and support them to stay in the family home? Do all homeless presentations automatically qualify for support - can we challenge the legislation that allows this?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Homeless legislation is the responsibility of the Scottish and British governments. The council is required by law to provide accommodation under specific conditions and where those conditions are met that demand can create costs for the council.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Crime, attacks etc need to be looked at so it is safe for walkers in these areas.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Crime would be the responsibility of Police Scotland

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	I would suggest that this consultation has already caused damage to morale. I would offer that the council has a demotivated and demoralised workforce that will be looking at attractive offers elsewhere. Having experienced this in another organisation, I would advise that you rethink this strategy now and communicate your intentions in a better manner.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Although the survey asks for opinions I'm sure that things are already in place with the proposals you have mentioned, this is just something that has to be put out to show that you might take opinions into consideration but highly unlikely.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. All suggestions will be fully considered to identify options to ensure the council has a balanced budget.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	This is in addition to the other staffing savings set out in other areas of this consultation. Staff may be concerned at the amount of savings being proposed through staff reductions with the level of detail set out in the consultation particularly as the cost of living continues to rise.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	I would like to see more detail on where these staffing reductions might be made. Front-line services such as home care, waste collections and recycling centres, road maintenance and gritting, should not be cut, as they are obviously essential to service users' safety and quality of life. However, there has been an increase in "woke" posts recently and I'd like to see an evaluation of the need for posts that include the words "development", "equality", "diversity", "welfare", and such like, as they contribute little to citizens of the Council. Posts should be evaluated based on their real benefit to people who live here.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	This is very vague and does not make clear impact of suggested changes.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	6.2 million in staff is a lot of people out of work.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	I am sorry to hear of the possibility of staff reductions and losing the knowledge from staff who are very often able to advise and head off problems they have encountered before saving time and usually money.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Cutting staff will reduce quality of service.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Seems to be a catch all comment but no detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Again, details needed to make any worthwhile comment!! How can you possibly ask people to give comment on such wide reaching statements?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	I don't fully understand this part although the world is in a mess just now	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.; ; There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.; ; This figure alone is alarming and highlights there is nothing else to cut if officers are unable to identify where further cuts could even come from. The local authority must find a political solution to the funding crisis to protect vulnerable children and families.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Comments to what, no actual question being asked.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	See my answer to 1A. It is disingenious to ask people to comment on such a broad proposal with far too little detail for anyone to give an opinion on - it constitutes tick box consultation. It is difficult to argue with the broad principle outlined but it very much depends on how it impacts on people - reducing staff can often mean that the only method of communication is online and in many organisations this causes much greater inefficiency/no help at all for the customer/client. I have sympathy with the council who have no choice but to make savings, but reducing staffing levels is most likely to result in a deterioration in services.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Not enough detail to make constructive comments. Need more details about where and how this will continue to allow service delivery given every officer seems to be overworked and struggling to achieve their workload.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	This is the closest so far to an honest and valuable question. Would be better if you defined how many jobs go for £6.2 million, and what services would be lost or reduced, then the public could make an informed decision.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	I do not see any reference to No use of technology to reduce costs? Is it possible that, metaphorically speaking, a haircut of the beast might negate some of the diet menu?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The comment was in the form of a question
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Needs more detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Thai survey is good in principle but many of the questions are not clear on the impact and detail to be able to comment, this should be redone and be transparent and clear to all. Otherwise it's a waste of a great opportunity to engage with your community	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Not enough detail of impacts to make an assessment. What are the "Officer Proposals".	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Very difficult to comment without details of what this means. General comment - outsourcing to private firms usually means poorer service and poorer terms and conditions for workers.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	This is so vague. What do you expect us to say? Invest in our children's education and in our health and wellbeing overall.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	council staffing is at a level were it just works lowering staff numbers would result in a poor service to all .	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Frightening to think someone will lose their job	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	As a council employee these are worrying times it's already hard making ends meet and now the worry of losing my job. Also the time a quality of my daughters education at risk.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Will be very challenging unless we just deliver statutory activity only	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council will have to continue delivering statutory requirements however changes and efficiencies can continue to be made in service delivery.
Modernising our council	1L General Balance of Savings to be Identified	Hopefully the staffing reduction in council will be by natural retirement. If not this could lead to a large increase in unemployment in the area	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	Vanity cars should go.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	I do not understand how services can be maintained with this enormous amount of money being cut. It would be helpful to know what the changes to service delivery and staffing levels actually means.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	More information needed on what this means for everyone involved. The staff who loose jobs and what that means for the public	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Modernising our council	1L General balance of savings to be identified	to difficult to comment since there is lack of information	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Yes put buildings to good use but keep staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Use offices that have free desk, there are free desks in many offices that could be used and smaller buildings closed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I refer back to my previous comment about underused spaces in WLC buildings, in which whole floors could be rented out to businesses or else used as co-working spaces such as the Melting Pot. - All good in theory, but are WLC systems and processes already set up for this (e.g. IT security) or does it require some investment?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Ok as long as all communities continue to have sufficient facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agreed however parking facilities at any new centre needs to be adequately assessed by planning. Armadale partnership centre and swimming pool has insufficient parking for the services offered. Whitburn leisure centre has never had sufficient parking.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Council will consider parking requirements for any new facilities

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems reasonable but it should not leave communities with no facilities as can often be the case. If there is a community centre that is being well run by local people and there are no other equivalent facilities then they should continue to be supported. The world does not revolve around Livingston!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Requires moving of social, recreational, educational, health, wellbeing and religious activities currently taking place in those Community centres and Village Halls to Partnership Centres or other Council owned premises, e.g. schools. IF asset transfer is not a feasible option for a community organisation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think buildings should not sit empty, but you need to ensure that there are facilities in each community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Whilst partnership centres work on paper, for those most disengaged they are intimidating. Need to work on making them accessible - location/physical accessibility but also breaking down confidence barriers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will provide support to customers who wish to access partnership centres. The Council will also offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 20
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as no-one loses out and there is still good management and maintenance of the buildings, this could be a good thing. However, it may mean that other community groups could lose out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This would benefit families in deprived areas offering a provision for their children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good, so long as community centres remain easily accessible to all in the community. If consolidating the number of village halls/community centres meant that people had to travel further to access them, this may mean certain sectors of society lose out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Opportunity to modernise and bring the community together in hubs such as schools. They are a great resource for the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations and education facilities. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree. Most community facilities are used a few times a week and empty for the rest of the time. This is not sustainable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree but you need to consider how you support to community groups to manage buildings and how they balance their budget without some support from council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, Support will be provided to community groups who wish to consider asset transfer
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is all good and well as long as accessible to people within their communities without having to travel.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as there is a full consultation - then WLC should only retain a minimal number of "Community buildings" and as in Linlithgow, which has a plethora of large "under used" buildings in and around the Centre of the Town. Suggest these be "off-loaded" starting with the Burgh Halls. Suspect the savings in this category has the potential to be greater than £1.1 million!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council does engage with the community and there is information and resource available on our website for this https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/33036/Consultation-and-Customer-Engagement

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree this is a good use of resources - communities need to get more involved and support themselves in partnership so Council dont have the running costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems okay, however would need to ensure that a binding legal document sets out who is to maintain the buildings, what happens if they are abandoned? Would the council have to step in?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Oh so you're now looking at reducing council facilities when you wouldn't look at it during covid.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Many are largely under used, so consolidation seems a sensible step.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds OK but cannot conceive how you will get cost savings as no community will be able to foot the bill for building maintenance etc. Again charging the public goes against the whole scenario of community centres.. Not explained.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This makes sense. Sell off old land & buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't believe consolidating the buildings in to one resource is a bad thing. But consideration must be given to ease of access for the community. (ie - if you are putting all community resources into one building, the whole community it serves must be able to access it) and as much as it may be able to be accessed via public transport, what was in walking distance for a person, may no longer be, so is that person able to take public transport to a new destination?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds like a good idea but you sold Carmondean Library using this model and it's still lying empty. No regeneration to the are.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think empowering people is a good thing. It makes them more responsible, where at the moment I think some have the attitude that it council's responsibility and they will have to find the funds to provide. I have seen needless waste first hand with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I agree with this proposal. There are plenty of building throughout West Lothian that are suitable for community use, some of which would support small businesses. The council should look to close poorly utilised community buildings if communities are not willing to take on the responsibility of running and paying for them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Intergrating services will help to reduce costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Great idea! Civic center is nowhere near capacity. However, you still have county buildings in Linlithgow open. Current makes no sense. It is a shame huge budget cuts have actually focused you to look at this. This has been a disgraceful waste of money for years.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No objections, provided that local communities and those without independent modes of transport are still able to access these facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There is little enough in some communities for tenants to participate in as it is, especially the youth. I think people need local facilities/groups to participate in no matter what age you are. This in turn would reduce youth crime due to boredom and help people's mental health.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations, to support continued delivery of community activities where the communities have determined that there is a need for that activity to be delivered . Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I would hope there is scope however for the Council to support and engage with these community groups	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Council will engage with community groups to offer them the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations, to support continued delivery of community activities where the communities have determined that there is a need for that activity to be delivered . Community groups will also have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The council can't afford to keep these buildings - if communities want them they need to use them/take them on themselves. Use of these buildings are low and although some people will miss them, the council can't continue to provide facilities for a small minority at a high cost.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Yup. Less buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This appears reasonable, following local consultation	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This will only work if communities are genuinely supported to undertake the responsibility for these buildings. We have had an asset transfer policy for over 5 years, but have made little in roads into delivering it, due to a lack of appetite within communities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	That's good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Makes sense to have partnership centres	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If well thought out and supported, there could be mileage in this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think an integrated approach to service provision is great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There are more organised facilities in our area, however they are becoming more expensive to manage and people cannot always afford them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This I agree with if people can be empowered to keep the 'community' going	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems reasonable as long as communities are given the opportunity to engage in this properly AND that partners facilities are going to be open late enough to allow groups to meet and that letting charges are not cost prohibitive and space is available for clubs equipment. Needs to be mapped out well and completely transparently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good idea - perhaps help with insurance might still be an issue WLC could help with but it seems very sensible approach to reduce costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good idea, depending on what they are used for	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good idea, depending on what they are used for-not houses	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Potential savings here. All areas that can still provide good service to community may not need refurbished or rebuilt.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree, but please make sure that support is given to any community group to understand the basic health & safety requirements of running a facility before any transfer is agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community groups are essential.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	In principle, this seems reasonable, but we are seeing the impact of large Partnership Centres run by management committees setting hourly rates for room hire so high that footfall has reduced therefore this matter needs to be taken into consideration.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I agree savings could be made by closing unsure or rarely used buildings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree on the whole but any consolidation should ensure that each community retains access to a community facility for various functions and services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I'm not sure how this would work, but would welcome seeing more detail.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	some provision by the council must remain, but it makes sense to scale things down given the current financial climate. The benefit of the current provision is that members of the community can give their time, for free, as my husband and myself do, to run a group for the community at little or no cost. Its important that this is taken into account during this change. Many groups would be at risk. We give our time for free, and contribute financially to the running of the clubs, but given the cost of living increase, we cant expand on that any further, or absorb any more cost. My husband runs the club with a focus on ensuring the sport is accessible to all, nomatter the families financial circumstances. For my own group, I would seek out concil provision to run my group as the cost was much lower for the group, meaning i did not have to charge families to attend. I think all that does need to be taken into account.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Worthy of ongoing review.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Absolutely. However, we still have key buildings that quite frankly are draining our finances (Bathgate Social Work Centre, St David's House to name two). These alone would double the savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	West Lothian has a number of excellent community resources and centres and it is important that they continue to be readily available and easily accessible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Only problem with this is that if a council worker wants to see someone in a community centre for an appointment, we would be charged for that meeting so it would still cost the council for that meeting or group work etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to be able to meet customers by using its resources effectively and choosing locations that meet customer demand while streamlining services
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Council facilities in an area should only be reduced if there are other facilities still available within the same community or other community groups willing and financially stable enough to take on the buildings. A lack of any community facilities will lead to increased frustration of local residents and an increase in antisocial behaviour and crime.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree, providing services to local communities are not compromised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	so long as this doesn't result in the closure of facilities, it makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agreed the world has changed the council should adopt a work from anywhere policy and reduce the number of council building	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I agree. But not if you are cutting Facilities Management again.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I agree, this seems like a sensible approach. I would also question whether the amount of council offices are required, as home-working since the start of the pandemic has worked well, sickness absence has dropped and people have a better work/life balance. If we do go back to permanent office working then we've lost all sense of reality, we must encourage staff to have a better carbon footprint by travelling less.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Use should be made of existing modern building including schools to bring about efficiency. Old buildings costly to maintain should be closed and the land sold and repurposed togenerate income	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities, including schools, in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	More partnership centres will be good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This sounds like a very worthwhile consideration	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Are we just going to do everything online? Great for people who don't want to leave the house.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to offer a variety of access to cater for the needs of customers. Where possible simple requests can be handled through online portals but customers may have more complex needs that require talking to staff over the phone or in person
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds great. Communities should be more involved as it will embed a respect and ownership which will in turn help development within, create opportunities and save money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The partnership hubs are excellent as long as they are cited so that all customers can go to them easily.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	A great idea in principle but not sure what this looks like in reality. Hard to make meaningful comment with limited level of info.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	unfortunately I think we all need to agree to this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No baseline to judge the proposals service impact or sustainability. But given the number of empty properties under the Council control this should be achievable, and more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would give the council more money so could be a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	partnership centres are a good idea- maximise the use of a single building instead of running and paying for several that are not running at full capacity.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community empowerment is vital and should be encouraged	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds reasonable. Also start charging community Groups market rates for the use of these properties. If communities want and need these buildings, then let them pay for them. If not, sell the buildings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Hope the plans work out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Yes to consolidation of community centres and halls. It may actually be cheaper to use private sector halls and meeting rooms than to maintain Council properties. No to asset transfers. It is unlikely these would create real savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Please make sure the buildings are in good repair and then allow communities to take over the running of them, lots of great volunteer groups out there who can use workspace.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. the Council already has repairing arrangements in place with management committees to ensure that buildings are maintained.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Why should the council own any buildings, land etc oh, because when they don't know that, it costs the public more to use it so great, save me from the council pocket by taking it out of the public pocket .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Some villages have superb community involvement. Encouraging this and supporting communities would be great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This seems like a sensible idea. There are loads of alternatives to using community centres in most local communities. Shut poorly used community centres and encourage groups to use things like local cafes or church halls. This generates some money in the community as well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Passing buildings over to communities for control can work well for the community but has risks as to them obtaining funding to keep the building going and relies normally on a few individuals to keep things going and if they leave then risk of communities losing their local asset. Consolidating the number of Council Offices is sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I do believe it is important to empower local communities, it helps them appreciate that it's not just a given they receive grants / funding from the council. They do have to fund raise like many other community groups who are not funded by the council. But I also believe it is good to hold on to assets.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems sensible to rationalise and centralise, so long as all communities have access to facilities, and duplicate venues offered to others for use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Ownership by each community sounds great but how is this going to be monitored in order to ensure equity across areas of the council (high/low deprivation). Within a low area you are likely to have many volunteers and therefore greater spread of people working towards the good of the centre/finding grants/organising workshops lets etc. However the pool of people within a high area will LIKELY result in fewer volunteers but a requirement for a greater level of community support/access.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2017
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I would imagine there could be significant savings through consolidating offices and making more use of agile/flexible working arrangements for staff. Large office premises seem wasteful	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	We absolutely have to be realistic with modernisation	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with supporting more local involvement in community services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	These will be a loss to the local communities that use them regularly, however provided that the services offered within the community centres are still widely available this could be productive to save money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Absolutely reduces the council buildings and slimline service buildings to reduce and reinvest use of council money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community Centres are no longer the HUBS they used to be, if we can sell this property and reinvest the money in our services and people this should be done. On the flip side, we should ensure the jobs and groups who still reside at these places are moved to appropriate spaces within our partnership centres.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	With more personnel working for part of the time from home then surely there are offices which are no longer viable for use and could be sold or used for a different purpose	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The question arises do we need as many as Covid proved for the majority we didn't - However the elderly and vulnerable still need that support - it is vital and should be placed in a pivotal position to reach the vast majority.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2017
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is a fair proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Happy. Was that team work is very important	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I strongly support this approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems logical so the community can have local access	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No issues with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is a good model provided any agreement entered into is sustainable and represents value for money for both the group and the council.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree this is a good use of resources -	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Makes sense, go ahead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree. More sustainable provision approach is required. Further detail also required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not ideal but seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree...liase with staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good idea in theory	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Needs to be carefully managed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This seems like a wise proposal and will hopefully save buildings being left to become derelict.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This seems a sensible idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Very supportive of this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds good and like a plan.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	i agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	GOOD IDEA	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	What is required for asset transfer, what support is available for communities? Given the current cost of living issues, with the cost of utilities etc rising I think it is unacceptable for the council to maintain excessive properties where I expect the majority of the population never use and therefore subsidise for a handful of people where resources could/should be redirected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think there is an opportunity to sell off council buildings such as St David House with home working here now. Staff working hybrid could work from existing locations such as Bathgate PC and Whitburn PC.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Don't really see the point in every single neighborhood having a council building. Especially with the cost of energy rising sharply.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This should have been done before fell into disrepair- too many empty buildings and too hot	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Could potentially look to centralise where nearby areas have numerous buildings/halls council owned.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Think this is a good use of space and model to follow. This would enable small groups to work from one space	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	close other venues that aren't used well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	close st david house ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This seems a sensible proposal if there is under utilised facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If there are buildings with low usage thus seems a sensible proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Only keep essential buildings,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	make what's left energy efficient	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As detailed previously (in relation to service like Nets and Land etc) I would support this as a positive reduction of services and savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If the services/groups all have homes to go to then this makes sense. For example if groups can be accommodated in the partnership centres then why would another community centre be required? Would be good for benchmarking / good outcomes examples to be provided for asset transfer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community Centres and village halls are essential for local communities, particularly those with an elderly population. These allow for social interactions that can be vital for elderly residents	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The council needs to offload most of these little used community facilities or close them down. We have schools, church halls, cafes etc in all of our communities that offer alternatives to how some of these buildings are currently (poorly) used	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Proposal makes sense. Many community centres already have management committees and they should be supported to take them into community ownership.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good idea, although the groups who take on need to be fully supported to be able to do this right - cutting staff wont allow for the support needed. Need to invest in staff so that they can help communities do this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Very Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	i support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	That sounds positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems fair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think some buildings could be used better. Also, do you need all the offices/buildings now a lot of staff are working from home and not in the office all week? Things like this needs to be looked at as i think savings could happen from this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	agree a lot of the older building are in need of repair costing money, great idea of partnerships sharing buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Yes, sell surplus buildings and maintain or build only those which cannot be digitised (ie, libraries)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sell off un used properties	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations. The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree. We do not need so many buildings if staff are able to work at home through hybrid working model.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Given the imminent budget position, this needs to be accelerated. I would propose that these buildings be declared surplus and sold immediately if a CAT transfer has not been agreed within an agreed timescale e.g. 6 months. If this dovetails with the earlier proposal for FM savings, it could be possible for communities to access even more buildings after the community centres are gone. Need to somehow reduce the number of country park buildings, sports pavilions, standalone libraries, arts venues etc. without turning West Lothian into a desolate waste ground of despair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Providing this is not a plan to sell-off community buildings to the highest bidder eg investment company/developer this would appear reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It is great to combine these services and have a 1 point of contact/building space to use. Not very good if its not accessible for people at the times needed, children are not allowed to hang around inside these buildings, at night or if its raining for whatever reason.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council needs to balance many different requirements when delivering these services. We consider insurance, risk, social issues amongst other items. Buildings use is carefully monitored to ensure the most efficient use, in terms of customer requirements.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree however it has to be a long term solution. No point in the council repairing the building when repairs are required and the community group handing the building back say 5 years down the line.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a programme of building maintenance. Community Groups who choose to request ownership of the properties will take on maintenance and repair responsibilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It may be beneficial to consider continuing the pilot of being able to work from home and use less building space when the 40% are in the office? Could the buildings be combined so that it was possible to "hot desk" when at work and have less council buildings?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems a shame to reduce village halls etc. but OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Have 1 centre in each town	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	community centres etc could be sold to the community at a reduced price for the community to take ownership and still be able to deliver some kind of service to the most vulnerable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree, but this is a lot to ask for communities to do - will their be support for groups to be able to do this?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Could be that community services etc would be far better run if they were run by the community for the community rather than WLC !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Individual consultations need agreed prior to closure and a significant effort made to allow a buy out from the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It sounds broadly reasonable but this is often the case until your own service is affected - again this proposal lacks that detail	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It sure the implications of this but please note community centres/halls are what make us towns and villages not just Giant housing estates.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree, however there are some areas where this was supposed to happen and we still have the original buildings plus the partnership centre. These savings have to be made as affect the rest of the buildings needed for service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There are many things that WLC cold do to reduce the cost of their building stock. A rigorous review of how they are managed on a day to day basis from opening times, power usage etc seems likely to provide substantial savings. Care needs taken before shutting any facility on a permanent basis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will conduct a review of management of council buildings and services delivered from council buildings. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Self access to buildings can be helpful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will review all opportunities to allow community groups to self access buildings
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I agree with this in part but the council has to engage more with the local communities, encourage the use of the partnership buildings any I have been in have always been drastically under used. 3G pitches, for example, charging nearly £13 for an hour is simply outrageous. Allow the children in to play their games, give them something to do. Set up youth clubs, encourage community engagement, promote the towns and villages make people proud to live in West Lothian and you may see a decrease in anti social behaviour = less clean up/repair costs for the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will conduct a review of management of council buildings and services delivered from council buildings. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council will support community groups to promote community activities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	community centres could possibly move over to the responsibility of their committees ?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will conduct a review of management of council buildings and services delivered from council buildings. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	For financial and climate change reasons I would support a major rationalisation of community centres, with services and activities being relocated to schools and other local facilities, including those on the voluntary and private sectors. The council no longer has the necessary revenue and capital budgets to support community centres via the current model.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council will continue to rationalise offices and utilise the partnership centre model across West Lothian. This includes identifying opportunities for closer working with partners.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Council buildings that are no longer required or fit for purpose should be sold off and invested into the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Disposal of assets that are no longer required generate a one off receipt but they also create recurring revenue savings in running costs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Makes sense, especially with energy bill increasing, as long as there is still adequate provision in each community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council will continue to rationalise offices and utilise the partnership centre model across West Lothian. This includes identifying opportunities for closer working with partners.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Why is WLC not selling these to local community interest groups with provision/access to council tax-paying residents?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Why does the council have so many buildings, how can spare capacity at schools be used more effectively/	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council will continue to rationalise offices and utilise the partnership centre model across West Lothian. This includes identifying opportunities for closer working with partners.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	With more people working remotely this frees up building use to be repurposed and sold. As long as core services and partnership centres are kept as their use is increasing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think this is a great idea for a cost saving measure. With the introduction of working from home, we have even less requirement for some of our buildings. We could move staff to more centralised locations like the Civic Centre with hot desking in some areas to make working areas available to those that need them. These excess buildings can then be rented out or sold to raise funds or used as spaces to provide public services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is a good policy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This makes sense, as long as managed properly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	vastly reduce portfolio give community centres to the community to manage and maintain shut some where footfall is low	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would support if guaranteed support available for any community or group who wanted to do this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	if they aren't used well - close them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree that is now a priority and building rationalisation will be essential - as pre comment about Schools - these need to be accessible to communities if asset transfer approach does not work and therefore use of schools would help replace any buildings that are closed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Voluntary organisations should be able to accommodate some of the sevcies run from Council buildings to reduce ths property costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree to continued selling off some of the Council buildings which are costly to run.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as not too many places reduced and people still have somewhere fairly near by they can access especially more rural areas in west-lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The council has made excellent savings in reducing building numbers and consolidation of several services delivered within one Partnership setup. More of this would be good hopefully without too much impact on delivery of services. Delivering services in a different way - use of technology here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council will continue to utilise the partnership centre model in which there will be shared services and facilities, including those delivered by partners. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is ideal; As will save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I am content with this proposal, this makes sense as long as the amalgamation doesnt mean a loss of vital service delivery due to lack of space.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The amount of council buildings that are sitting empty most of the time is ridiculous. ; These should be closed or handed over to community partnerships	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Can definitely reduce the amount of building the council need to run. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Makes sense. Its the only way to make these facilities sustainable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Good basic principles of rationalisation and partnerships but don't overload the retired members of the community in carrying it out!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Makes sense as long as communities are not left with nothing at all.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As commented on in previous section on Leisure, the shared use of facilities would "free up" other uses for council buildings OR free them for disposal and/or redevelopment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council will continue to rationalise offices and utilise the partnership centre model across West Lothian. This includes identifying opportunities for closer working with partners.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Yes however as the only outdoor education centre in west Lothian it's a shame to close Low Port centre Linlithgow	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree that in some areas communities might be better suited to managing their local buildings and tailor them for the local use	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community partnerships and us all investing funds in our community is the only realistic way forward. Every member of the community should be willing to give time and effort to build the environment they want to live in.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as the funding is there local hubs are doing a great job	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	One stop shop, better with something than nothing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds light saving for assets across the community; More details required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There needs to be some sort of council oversight programme as the transfer to communities is a good idea and can work but if there aren't enough people willing to get involved the services provided could be lost	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Could be a bit controversial. Isn't specific about which council facilities have been affected. 'Community empowerment' certainly sounds like a good approach to face the current situation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think community services and community building have the capabilities to take on more roles to help the council. However this means that third sector and charities need funding to make sure that they are able to pick up the gaps left by wlc removing services. ; ; However trying to combine community resources for example in Bathgate: People from Boghall will not access the services in Bathgate and vice versus. This may also be true for areas in Livingston etc. Communities tend to be more drawn to their own resources and will not migrate to another if the service is removed. Which means your removing the service by making it look like your not.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I suppose this is inevitable, but you can't sell buildings in disrepair There might need to be some help offered where a property has been neglected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	If a building is sold whatever repairs are required would be made known to the purchaser. As with all property sales / ownership transfers there would be building surveys made by both parties to ensure transparency
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think this is a good idea, giving people the chance to invest in something. Gives more meaning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The council can't afford to keep these buildings. Rationalisation needs to happen to deliver savings but also to prevent further increases in costs from inflationary pressures. This has to happen, even if it is painful. If communities valued these buildings they would use them more. Surely what is more important is the service not the physical space.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Can be managed if carefully planned and community engagement sought	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	People can continue to WFH so this sounds like a good idea!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Our local community group could support our local community center. I think this is a fantastic idea and would retain jobs for those already in post as the community groups would need employees to keep the centres open.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Rationalising community buildings and delivering services under one roof seems a good way to increase how buildings are utilised as long as communities do not feel that services are moved outwith the immediate vicinity.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I support this idea as long as communities are supported in this initial set up to ensure success with the right groups identified to ensure services continue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Should be done as i don't see why the council needs so many building in one area when their is space available in other buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	as long as sevices for people are not lost	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as they are overseen	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council works transparently with oversight from elected members, audits, public information and regulatory bodies. Where we work with customers or other partners there is clear guidance, audit and risk oversight in place
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as community services are still available	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There may be some community centres that are not being used on a daily basis but those that are accessed daily should remain open as they are vital in society. Many charities and small businesses and community groups use these spaces for vital work. Coming together as a community is VITAL and access to these spaces needs to continue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community centres play an important part in providing services to multiple groups throughout West lothian, groups within the community centre help to combat loneliness in our residents and provide a way of improving mental health. I have a fear that by consolidating properties you will take away many of these community groups impacting on health and wellbeing of our residents	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I feel these have proved successful so it's definitely something to consider	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Maybe as a rental option so that if community partnerships struggle we don't lose the halls ect. Everyone is in the same situation. We need to all be able to hold each other up .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Should increase council facilities and cost should be based market rate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as the halls are repurposed and not left to go derelict and reduce appeal of village or morale of local communities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I agree buildings cost money and people need to be prioritised and be creative about delivering services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This looks like a good idea and may benefit community groups and churches.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Partnership centres are good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The asset transfer of buildings and land - particularly common good land - to local communities is really positive. Regardless of budgetary pressures, this should be done as part of the overall transformation of Local Democracy. It's great to see WLC beginning to facilitate this positive change more. Well done! Where there is little local volunteering or other capacity, councils, the Scottish & UK Governments, grant-making bodies, ethical investors and social enterprise loan funders, like Scottish Communities Finance Limited, must provide development and capital funding to support local communities to make buildings, land the local services and attractions they provide more vibrant, relevant and closer to the culture of those local communities. At the same time employing more local people - including council officers - at the heart of every town and village at least. Yet facilities need to be diverse and flexible enough to change with the rapid advancements in technology and so on. Local services such as co-working spaces, social enterprise hubs, communication cafes, creches, repair shops, tool libraries, energy, renewable energy & retrofit coops, cycling clubs, community EV chargers, solar car ports, gardening/green space improvement services, food larders, community orchards, music and arts festivals, health and fitness and other services and facilities, etc, etc, could all be located in revitalised council buildings owned and operated by local community development trusts or similar entities and in partnership with the council, local charities, social enterprises, churches, interest groups & SMEs.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Do private enterprises/clubs etc hire out council buildings much? I have never seen this advertised, if so. This could be a source of income for the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council facilities are already used by many different groups
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Communities should have the opportunity to acquire ownership of surplus properties where viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	3 A Support this in general but think you should share the details with the community now instead of a drip feed of actions over the years to encourage discussion debate and ideas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Further details will be shared once the proposals are more fully developed.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	agreed, partnership centres are great resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Audit all community centre duplication	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council will work with community groups to avoid duplication in community facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I agree, far too many council buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with proposal keep community Centres/charities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agreed. If it's not being used.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't agree with council services being turned over to local people - this is just a cop out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think allowing groups charities and individuals to own and operate their own facilities is a great idea. I know from experience that the council owns social care services which should be owned by charities but due to laws around subletting the councils need to own and operate them. This often causes conflict and lots of time and money wasted. Allowing groups and charities to operate without the councils input would benefit all.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	A good idea provided support can be provided for managent committees and scios who then run the buildings. Including help to understand legal requirements and search for funding or ways to be self funding. Help to make buildings more eco friendly, solar panels, insulation etc when upgrading buildings so they are more efficient for groups taking over.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I agree with giving the community the opportunity of running the halls/ community centres however the council would require to support the committee in moving forward in this proposal. The skill set of management committee membership requires review.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council will support community groups who wish to pursue asset transfer
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Agree with proposal- help community centre/ charities to deliver more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This seems sensible, particularly if staff can be supported to work at home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	-
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Under the community empowerment act there is a requirement for the council to put lush its assets and opportunities for communities to take ownership of these assets. Council seem to be committed to this orincile but sometimes staff make it so difficult and the process more complicated than it need be.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	If there are specific examples of this that you know of please get in touch with us and provide detail. Where we can investigate we will seek to find improvements which will benefit our customers
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Support community empowerment of buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Necessary to sell some council properties and assets. Also to close some buidlings with low usage.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	keep supporting local facilities if you can reach them. Thanks you	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Again, efficiency is paramount and perhaps some of these buildings would not need to be close if we did not give then away for free and charge a running cost at least. Groups have for too long had "free lets" or ridiculous low charges to let.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Ar eyou trying to get our of the partnership building in Winchburgh. Hugely disappointing if so.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If community halls and buildings are well used they should be maintained - with many empty council buildings spending millions on partnership centres was/ is questionable. Do the decision makers actually have any idea how schools/ community centres etc operate	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Asset transfer basically dumping onto local villages disgusts me to ever hear this.....outrageous.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not sure how this would work. Would communities need to raise money to keep their village hall/community centre by charging groups to use them?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I fear this is the beginning of a very downward spiral. This is going to have a major negative effect of peoples mental health as well as physical effect.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unfair if everything is centralised in certain towns. Will result in lack of access to community space in more rural areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If I was opening closing buildings key holding cleaning and care taking setting alarms putting bins out.... I would be doing a care taker.out a job. This discusts me and I would never opt for this as a choice. A very non working class think to think abou	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This sounds like... Buy it or lose it. Am I right? And once bought, the community, much of which will be living in poverty, will be left with repair bills and running costs, yes? Sounds like a fabby idea. Not. I'll tell you what WLC; I don't know who your bean-counters are, but they put those of the Tory party to shame. But you know that's not a compliment... Hopefully.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Cuts to council facilities risks hollowing out communities where there is not the established structures in place to take these assets on. This loss must be avoid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Some of these buildings are very dated and would require substantial upkeep which will be a detriment to groups taking ownership	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	These should not be touched, they have been ruined by the council. Don't touch them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Selling off the estate. This is never a good sign. Passing old buildings over to committees something I strongly disagree with. We pay council tax for these services and buildings...I mean where will people go for a heat if these warm.spaces are no more. Does West Lothian Council understand the knock on effect of no buildings Why in the above text is the buildings names not listed.....this maybe have helped comment here....	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	These services should not be being consolidated, they need to be increased and extended to adhere to to expanding population, especially in learning disabilities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Increasing expenditure would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This simply makes facilities less accessible. If its more than 1 mile away from centres of population people are much less likely to engage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not sure this is the way to go. People are going to need warm safe places to go.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council, and local community planning partners, will continue to have facilities available to provide warm, safe places.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't think That her could have come up with a more society crushing plan. Awful idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. This proposal would focus on empowering local communities to protect service delivery.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Devastation everywhere you look with these cuts!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Many people do not have transport and rely on their provision being local to them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Again, the costs that are to be saved are at a time when many are relying on these facilities to help cope with pressures on cost of living, so seems like a poor time to make this change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community services are obviously low priority, whereas these services benefit old and young battling loneliness and mental health issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will engage with community groups to offer them the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations, to support continued delivery of community activities where the communities have determined that there is a need for that activity to be delivered. Community groups will also have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not every area in West Lothian is affluent and communities cannot afford the funding on their own.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council will engage with community groups to offer them the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations, to support continued delivery of community activities where the communities have determined that there is a need for that activity to be delivered. Community groups will also have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Communities are under funded	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Empowering communities in this instance is cutting off any council funding, leaving small communities with no community provision unless they find funding elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	By taking or reducing the number of Community Centre & Village halls you are taking away the hub of the Community. This is a very important part of the Community especially for village life to have somewhere kids and local groups and beyond can gather	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think lots of small communities rely heavily in the community buildings and would like to see them key	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Of course, kids got Snapchat and tik tok, close the community centres and libraries	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Another saving that will have a massive impact on communities, closing the hubs that connect people together.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	These spaces can be vital so certain communities and less to others. I think you should look at the use for each area and base the decision on this. Taking away a place the community uses and which provides support would be of a disadvantage for the area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,

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Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Although I understand this strategy, I would not support any shift towards creeping privatisation or selling off community buildings and facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Where will people meet socialise get help join groups bus setvices are poor people deserve a building a centre in every village a community centre.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Our concern here would be facilities are centralised and not available to community and may involve the need for better public transport links, which are already very poor.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Some council facilities and community centres are the hub of community living. Each community would be best to comment on their use of these facilities. Closing some down may have far reaching consequences and lead to the downfall of community life and society.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Please do not reduce the number of safe places for people - libraries, schools, partnership centres. People need places to meet and interact or we're going to isolate our residents into their homes and that will kill communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Consolidation would make travelling for those who use these services, more difficult.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There is very little in communities as it is, I do not agree with this strategy	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would need support for the community to implement and enable them to have the skills to run these facilities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I am a disabled individual who has accessed services for people with mental health difficulties for two decades. The pandemic has produced its own effect on how people access the services that are important to them. The loss of venues has had an impact on people's lives. Now more effective ways of working need to be found and local premises for services to continue to run must be decided upon.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There are very few groups for new parents/ toddlers. There are no council run groups in Whitburn, people who can't afford privately run groups are missing out on important childhood experiences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council offers many support services for many groups of people. If there is a change that you are struggling to deal with then please contact us for advice and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Village Halls are important for the smaller community and should be kept for the community so that the community can attend in their community together when this is the only building left that all ages can actually socialise indoors and should be supported. The community should not be expected to travel elsewhere! Especially when this is voluntary run by the community and have already helped save WLC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council offers many support services for many groups of people. If there is a change that you are struggling to deal with then please contact us for advice and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Please stop using language such as 'empowering communities ' to describe a withdrawal of support and services. It's not fooling anyone. We cannot and must not accept a reduction in services now as it will increase need for spending at a later date.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	How will WLC support the vulnerable and elderly if council buildings are amalgamated? For example, some tenants may not be able to commute to another community centre further from their home if their local community centre is closed?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council offers many support services for many groups of people. If there is a change that you are struggling to deal with then please contact us for advice and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Loss of amenities is detrimental	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,

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Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Close as many building as possible and FORCE staff and public to stay at home. This in turn will increase metal health issues and loneliness.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is exploring hybrid working with staff but staff can choose to work in an office full time if preferred. For customers there will still be buildings with local services and face to face access available
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community hubs are vital to keep kids off streets causing trouble. The council should keep funding these.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not sure I agree, most communities need a central meeting point.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Social care in the Community is important and generally feel there is not enough support out there at present so would be concerned on any impact this would cause to the care to people who need it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as this doesn't lead to the closure of facilities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I am not in favour of transferring ownership of community facilities to community groups. This will result in differences between council regions especially in places of deprivation and poverty.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It would be devastating to local communities if they were to lose their community centres and village halls.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The impact of this needs to be fully considered and costed. Closing down a community hall that is hardly used could be justified, closing down a community hall that is heavily used, walkable and is a lifeline to some people needs to be valued, not just in terms of cost, but in terms of other social benefits.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There is a lack of community ran facilities as it stands. Clubs and Chapters are closing. There are less things for people to do (of all ages). Less pleases for people to socialise	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	More abdication of responsibilities where it matters...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	the partnership centres are not priced to allow for small community groups to use their facilities. Smaller community groups are currently using the smaller community centres in their local areas for much less than the cost would be in the local partnership centres. The community groups are full of people who are reliant on the groups as their only source of contact and provide a place for the elderly to congregate and allows them to feel included and reduces the isolation some of them feel. If these groups were forced to use the partnership centre then the group would have to disband due to lack of funds.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community centres are more important than ever, but people have less income that in recent times - how can groups realistically be expected to fund these places themselves?; Pushing community groups out of these places is likely to lead to fewer community groups, more anti-social behaviour and a bigger long-term cost for the council, police and government.; Seems short-sighted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Cutting these services will lead to the closure of most of them over the short to mid term whis will be detrimental to the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	You've closed everything in Linlithgow but spend plenty in other towns. We've surely no more to lose here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think there should always be a community facility or village hall in every village or town in West Lothian. If these were to reduce groups in the community would struggle to find space to hold meetings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.

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Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Very sad to see so many council assets lost such as Muiravonside and Low Port in Linlithgow. These have been key in the people of West Lothian upbringings for generations and will now be lost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Consider the impact of closing key facilities on community engagement. Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I guess this is where we are headed. But won't the more properous areas take advantage of this but the less so won't be able to take this up?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	People rely on their community centres and attend activities close to home.. This move could leave vulnerable people isolated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Closing village halls is not a good idea. It will isolate communities unless they have an alternative hub they can use. The idea of a community taking ownership of a hall is fanciful in my view.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The problem will be in getting local people to form working committees to run the properties and services as those people who would do it are already involved in community life	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Wouldn't affect me but could affect the elderly, again your online systems and just too overly complicated for a lot of people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will continue to offer a variety of access to cater for the needs of customers. Where possible simple requests can be handled through online portals but customers may have more complex needs that require talking to staff over the phone or in person
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Worrying loss of community hubs and need to travel further to access services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	My only concern here is for rural communities and the facilities that may be lost for those who use them regularly as it not as easy to travel to areas that have partnership centres.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Does this really mean closing more community buildings? ; Isolating our society more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Some villages community centres are the only thing they have we shouldn't lose these	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Blackburn has NOTHING. We need help as the forgotten vilkage	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Blackburn has a partnership centre which offers a variety of services for the community. Including a GP practice; community health centre; community centre (including sports hall, IT training suite and multi-purpose, early years and young people's spaces); library; Customer Information Service (CIS) centre; employability service; credit union. Please see this page for more information https://westlothian.gov.uk/blackburnpartnershipcentre
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is worrying for smaller communities as they rely on community centres etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Care has to be made to make sure non-council individuals do not run services for reasons of self-interest, rather than for the good of the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2017. They will also need to abide by the legislation with the council providing oversight and support
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Bringing everything together does not always create a good service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The aim is to make services more accessible by bringing them together in one location
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This would be dependent upon the community coming forward and offering a service. What would happen if no one supports this within the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Do not support as in high SIMD areas, there is not enough community capacity for this so will lead to significant inequalities across the area	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	But this just means cutting Peter to pay Paul.; Where are Community Groups likely to pay to take over ownership of assets and staff to operate them?; Will the WLC also relinquish management responsibility too?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Community groups not only can manage but will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2017
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not ideal for people without transport. Again hits the poorest, elderly and those with ill health the hardest.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	as long as community councils aren't involved. Most don't do anything and look for the council to do things	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. The council will continue to support community groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Again I believe this is dangerous. We are supposed to be a COMMUNITY and should think in this way. I,m all for consolidating these venues AS LONG as it doesn't leave any of the rural villages with nothing. The bus service is not that great and some do not even run late at night. I think people may even prefer to pay a small fee to keep these venues up and running. It could at least be put to a vote?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2017
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Reducing council services is not empowering communities its the exact opposite.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	A retrograde step	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Speechless	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't support this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't agree with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Honestly?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not a good idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think communities could be disadvantaged if local halls etc are harder to hire or even closed. I think this could lead to isolation and mental health concerns for some people which is a concern.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community buildings are some peoples only life line.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Do not support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I disagree with this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not supported.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Many opportunities have been missed and communities should not be encouraged to take on responsibility for "assets" that are in fact distinct liabilities unless there is revenue available to meet the overheads and improvements necessary to maintain these "assets"	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The council still needs to be accountable for this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Community centres are run by management committees not the council.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	My concern is that the partners cannot afford the upkeep of these properties the council will have to step in and it will cost more in the long term.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not all groups in the community have the capacity to organise themselves to this level. It is disempowering for service users to feel there is no support, it will stop them seeking support and accessing services. Also perhaps missing out on services that they don't know exist but might be relevant for them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will support groups that approach them for assistance. These changes mean that groups may need to learn additional skills but that learning can benefit them long term.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If this is an attempt to close community centres, think again! People are paying to hire them and are a source of income for the council. Not only that you should be providing playgroups with free use of community centres like Lochside Playgroup who provide low cost childcare and funded places to families with low income/disability/unemployed. The partnership centres are full and don't have room for additional services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	lack of facilities from Council in my town has had an impact on people who dont drive	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Where possible we would encourage customers to access council services via our website or even over the phone through our contact centre. Access services in this way is usually the fastest. If this is not the case then please speak to us about this
Community Empowerment an	3a Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not my problem, you do need to keep community centers and after school programmes for kids to avoid neighbour hood issues in bad areas with low social econinic and hisotocal council behaviurs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The consultation contains specific questions on community facilities and youth services, and these issues are not relevant to this question.
Community Empowerment an	3a Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not my problem, you do need to keep community centers and after school programmes for kids to avoid neighbour hood issues in bad areas with low social econinic and hisotocal council behavior.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Many of these properties were gifted to the local community initially, greater need in more rural areas for this type of facility.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a register of common good assets with relevant buildings being subject to clear and differentiated governance compared to other council assets. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	All the communities should still have community centres	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	These are all vital for the communities they serve. If removed from small communities, they will be a huge loss and make these communities more isolated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Communities need spaces and access	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community halls are vital for supporting the vulnerable and lonely members of society. Closing some down would not work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not enough facilities at the moment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	These community services are needed it will be sad to see them cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Murieston Village Hall and Crofthead Centre are important local centres	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Cutting back on this is wrong	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This could negatively impact the elderly & disabled who may not be able to access community spaces that were local & easy to access. This would be direct discrimination	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Every community should have access to a community centre in their area. There are some, especially those without a constituted Community Council, that have none at all. So rather than closing them down you should be opening more. These are required to be a place to focus community support as seen in the pandemic and now in the Cost of Living crisis.; The Asset Transfer is mostly seen as a liability transfer so the Council don't have to maintain them and not actually giving any value to the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Rural community centres such as Newton and Philipstoun are so important for the locals as there is no alternative places for community events.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Providing each community can have access to the use of a building or hall for local events that most villages and communities need throughout the year.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community buildings are essential to many village lifestyles and support within communities and should be protected as much as possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This seems like a lot of words that say little but resonate with David Cameron's Big Society tagline. The sort of people who empowered communities are now back at work and I don't think there really is an excuse for cutting staff who are paid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	You have to make sure you are not fobbing off an asset that communities will not be able to maintain. There should always be at least one community space in each community. This is not the case and it can be seen that those communities do not engage as there is no place that can be a focus for involvement. Closing existing ones are a backward step and not in keeping with community empowerment principles.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Don't deprive distanced communities - be very careful about this. These are under-used resources which could be more purposeful and income generating than they are - think about this!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The fact that you have left many buildings to get into a state of disrepair or indeed neglect them too the point that classes etc have left (Knightsridge Community Centre) so that they have Barry any income is a joke	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Council supports management committees to ensure that buildings are maintained to an appropriate standard.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	what a stupid sentence , empower community and then say reduce number of council facilities? no matter how you word it your abandoning your due care to the community and services it provides	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community empowerment by closing community centres. You could not make this up	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Does this mean getting rid of libraries? ; Don't support this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities, such as community centres, and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council has a legislative requirement to provide library facilities and will review the most effective means of delivering this service, taking account of demand and opportunities to access activities which currently take place in libraries from other community facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Again I don't like this but if they can be owned by the community and still used that would be good	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This will negatively impact the communities of West Lothian	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Social care needs to be brought back in-house due to companies who are not completing work they are getting paid for leaving vulnerable people at risk. If these services were brought back in-house the council would have more control over these services and ensure people are getting the help required. It is discussing people stuck in hospital due to care package being out to tender. These are humans not burst pipes	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If community centres and village halls offer an important space for people to go/events then would closures have a negative impact on community spirit and the wellbeing of the most vulnerable people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	While the council would prefer to keep as many services running as possible, with the budget cuts that need to be met, this is not possible. Community activities have significantly diminished over time as the needs of those communities have changed to a more digital experience. If you know of anyone who is placed in a difficult situation as a result of these changes, please speak to our social policy teams for options on support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It all sounds like local communities will suffer in the long run	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Reading between the fairly impenetrable lines here, I think you mean you're going to sell off community centres. This is a terrible idea, especially as you are apparently doing it in the name of community empowerment. West Lothian has an appallingly low success rate with community asset transfers, so if this is the new plan, much more work must be done to ensure communities throughout the region understand their rights and the lengthy processes involved. You can't simply start selling off community assets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community Centre are imptrant and supply a need. We need to keep them. Make cuts somewhere else.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Don't cut - we still need council workers in local areas not leaving services to run on own.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't believe putting power/ control of local services to local people will work. I think individuals will take advantage of this without anyone to monitor it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The council will support community groups who wish to take on ownership of community facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Keep community centres open and al the staff.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't agree with council services being run in the community by community groups who are not trained or checked. this will lead to corruption.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The council will support community groups who wish to take on ownership of community facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	they would isolate people need more space where to get info on in services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The council will support community groups who wish to take on ownership of community facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Is this where you sneakilly shut down the lanthorn? We have no library my children can access safely because of paid for parking and busy road.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	No. The Lanthorn Centre is currently closed to enable roof works to be completed to ensure the longer term viability of the building. There are no proposals to close the Lanthorn.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	You're building new ones and selling off the old ones , how does that save money ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Disposal of assets that are no longer required generate a one off receipt but they also create recurring revenue savings in running costs. The council has delivered substantial savings through consolidating buildings. New buildings are also more efficient, delivering savings in day to day costs, particularly energy.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No feelings on this dont use them	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Every community in Westlothian should have a village hall to give the young generation something to do after school	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Wil grants be given to community groups to take over facilities?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to work with groups and communities and support access to grants as and when they become available.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Does this mean other people wouldn't be able to use them?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities, including council owned buildings, in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No experience of this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't envy the Council for all these cuts	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not clear how so many new partnership buildings save money in the short term	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The partnership buildings bring services together in one place making them easier to deploy and manage. It also brings efficiencies through saving on staff costs which are generally the highest cost to any organisation
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	What are you planning to sell off?; There needs to be greater visibility of this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is still in the consultation stage and has not identified any facilities to sell. The Council will offer to transfer ownership of community facilities to community groups.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If someone buys the facility, does that then stop others from using it?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	If a property is sold by the council the new owners will have the full rights and responsibilities for that building. This would include use of the building and determining who can access it
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would like to see further proposal as to what this would mean	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unable to comment - I do not currently use or have experience of using community centres/ halls etc	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	less staff	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As per previous comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't feel I have enough knowledge on this area to offer an opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unable to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't know enough about this to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I dont even know what to say to this statement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	None.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It would not be right to offer feedback without a sound understanding of the services this relates to and the impact on its users.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Don't know enough to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Without details as to how this would impact those that use these facilities cannot comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would be useful to see the usage of community centres and what they are used for, in the media there is always a lot of attention as community centre closures but never much about who uses and how often etc and if that is representative of the community	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unsure about this as it's a bit vague how communities take over use of properties previously run/owned by the Council.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Who is going to fund the the groups looking after these facilities	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Community groups may seek funding from a variety of sources. This can be from membership rates, council or grant funding depending on availability, the group's purpose and composition or chosen area of intent.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Will sufficient support to local groups and centres be guaranteed? What training will be given, what HR support will be provided? Who owns the infrastructure and assets?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will aim to provide support and assistance where needed. It is not possible to identify specifically how this will work until sufficient need has arisen. Existing Assets and infrastructure are owned by their current owner unless purchased, in which case the purchaser will take ownership
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Na	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think I addressed this issue earlier.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No comments.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	What is happening to empty building?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Alternative uses for buildings are considered, subject to an appropriate business case being established. The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't understand the question. How is the service being changed and what are the pros and cons? If it's all good news, and modern and efficient etc, just save the £1,1 million.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Unfortunately, we don't have any council run community spaces, other than a park! Our hall was knocked down with the promise of using the community hall within the school, this hasn't happened due to access issues and associated costs!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has a wide range of assets across West Lothian. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No particular views on this. Having increased populations in areas such as Winchburgh and East Calder may cause additional services of similar nature - reduction may have a negative impact.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	What a predicament	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	For any agreement or disagreement on this proposal there would need to be specific details. Community and village halls are often the hub of the community and at this time never more needed. Any closure of any facility would need to be with the full agreement if that community.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	reducing council costs there was a suggestion to sell some council properties and old Armadale library site has been up for sale since the building was demolished. It is an eyesore in the main street. What effort have been made to sell it since a planning application was refused do the site. It could have a few benches placed in the area and it tidied up to make a meeting point for locals to sit and chat and no doubt moan about the lack of council services.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	All good in theory, but are WLC systems and processes already set up for this (e.g. IT security) or does it require some investment?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has made significant investment in the IT infrastructure and will continue to allocate appropriate resources to introduce new technology where appropriate. The council's ICT Strategy seeks to deliver change in line with advances in technology and changes in council priorities, whilst still having a clear framework within which to operate.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	No information provided on what rationalisation is proposed. Unclear that there is defined provisions contained in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to underpin WLC's statements above.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Hopefully this proposal will include provision for a sensible handover and long term support package?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If you are selling buildings sell them for the correct price in legitimate sales format.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Ensure the local community has the opportunity to purchase any halls et c for local benefit	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Involve ALL communities - not just the more "privileged" ones	4. The council is already doing this.	The Regeneration Team within the Community Wealth Building team provides support to communities, especially targeted ones within areas of deprivation, to ensure engagement with a range of community empowerment activities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Lets "let" the Civic Centre?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council shares the Civic Centre with other community planning partners.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Put in place long term plans to hand some of these facilities over to partners (churches, community groups etc) who are able to run them and funding to support that transition.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	We must not lose our community spaces - these are often where local residents with no car access or limited mobility are able to access vital council and community support and resources.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Adults and children with disabilities cannot be short changed with the specialist help they need, their lives and livelihoods depend on the care and help they receive.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There still needs to be a degree of central management, otherwise, you are expecting local volunteers to pick up the work of the Council without the remuneration that would afford.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council already supports groups and legislation is in place that will allow community groups to access funding and support.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Also partnerships need to be held to account of management of these and not left to run them down.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Please consider the youth of today. The elderly.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Please have proper discussions with relevant people to see how they feel about it	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to consult with the local community as proposals are developed
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	spend the money from land sales renovating old central heating in pre war houses ie polbeth crescent central heating is 37 year old and out dated and not energy afficent	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to maintain residential and non-residential properties within its portfolio. As a social landlord tenant rents, combined with grant funding, provide millions of pounds of investment each year in maintenance and capital programme upgrades.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	We have not had a Community Centre for the last 2-3 years, so surely savings have been made regarding fuel costs etc. Reading this , is the Lanthorn ever going to reopen?; The biggest issue with various community buildings including the Lanthorn are the flat roofs they were built with. Today, it is teeming down with rain, flat roofs are useless in the Scottish climate. ; Spend the money, get proper roofs put on and you will have buildings fit for purpose that will last.	4. The council is already doing this.	Information on progress with the Lanthorn is available here: https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/lanthorncentre
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Council needs to help with the upkeep to stop disrepair	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to maintain residential and non-residential properties within its portfolio. As a social landlord tenant rents, combined with grant funding, provide millions of pounds of investment each year in maintenance and capital programme upgrades.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Move staff to work from home.	4. The council is already doing this.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Boghall Drop-in Centre provides an essential service to those in the community, especially with the current increase in cost of living. It is the only council building in the area to provide necessary services to all ages.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	What about considering places for warm hubs, particularly in the cost of living crisis	4. The council is already doing this.	The council already delivers this from existing partnership centres, community centres, libraries and other public buildings.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Maintain partnerships to ensure fairness	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds reasonable for communities that would like to buy property to be able to but it lacks equity for pupils that have limited money or capacity. Rather than empowering communities they may feel disempowered by a lack of support. Maybe in combination with letting out school rooms and halls, perhaps all needs could be met?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities, including school facilities, in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The council needs to engage and listen to the local communities better. Not just tick a box and ignore. Give detailed reasons and this includes elected members	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council already has a range of ways that the community are engaged by services and supported to be involved in decision making, including the Council's Community Choices programme and the activities undertaken by the Regeneration Team. The Council will continue to review how it engages with communities to ensure communities have the opportunity to participate.

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Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I would love for the council to create a resource that shows clubs and community groups what could be possible with Community Asset Transfer. Learn from where other groups, areas, LAs have had success and share this as best practice. I would like to see a team established to be a first point of contact that would then help a group create a business plan in partnership with specific services in the council i.e., Culture & Sport for sports clubs looking to take on a facility for sporting purposes. The few people who currently have ownership of this area of work are completely inundated and spread too thin. Have this team to really help identify options that facilities could be used for as quite often community groups won't have the vision or internal knowledge to see potential.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. There is support available to any parties interested in asset transfer.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I thought community buildings were for community use, this seems to only be if your face fits with the workers on shifts at the times. maybe more accessible areas for different needs, needs to be looked at within these buildings.	4. The council is already doing this.	Community buildings are for community use. Any issues in relation to access to community buildings should be reported to the relevant management committee.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Need to consider the impact on the elderly who are becoming more isolated in this modern online world!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Only if community groups are supported to obtain funding, provided with guidance from WLC	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As long as support provided to ensure best chance of surviving in a very difficult climate, emerging Community development Trusts and social enterprises as very empowering within communities but support needed also.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Communities that are isolated by location/means of transport should be considered in relocation of services	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community Centres are important to local communities - they provide a valuable service to local people - if these are transferred to Management Committees - WLC should ensure that the management committees are given assistance in the first instance to help and also hopefully these community centres would continue their valuable work.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will engage with groups seeking to take control of community assets under the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Asset transfer doesn't work and communities aren't support enough to take these facilities over. The council is spending a massive budget fixing work on roofs in 3 huge buildings right now	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Make sure these new buildings are properly built And don't need major repairs a few months/ years after opening.	4. The council is already doing this.	All new buildings and extensions are subject to sustainable design and all applicable building standards.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	In theory a positive approach but gap between the concept and reality of community ownership. Some communities could be left isolated, in particular communities with high deprivation and with key groups (older people for example). This needs to be a central consideration.	4. The council is already doing this.	A mapping exercise will be undertaken to match service and activities to available buildings, both council owned but also other buildings owned by partners and local bodies. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Concern that closing facilities in the most deprived areas would result in further issues. If looking to close buildings or ask community to take them on set up a team and the role is to support communities through the process of asset transfer from beginning to end. This would be the team's only function but could liaise closely with management committees and key community organisations, so they have the skills necessary to make the transition smooth.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Just remember the vulnerable	4. The council is already doing this.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.

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Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Sounds like a good idea.; ; Communities would need a lot of support if they are to take on buildings and run then.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Grassroots is the best way for communities to help each other. But in today's economic climate it's hard to do because these things rely on the voluntary sector and unless you dont need to work. Some people will require a wage.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council works closely with the voluntary sector. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It works in some cases although I have seen a number of buildings transferred in West Lothian and elsewhere to community groups who have after a year or two been unable to continue to maintain the facility - is there going to be a safety net?; ; From experience elsewhere, where there is a supportive, engaged community, volunteer management of village halls and similar can be very good.; ; Joint management of many areas of parks and openspace can work well so long as there is clear agreement of roles and responsibility and an agreed management plan. Thereafter WLC need to support, train and encourage rather than direct!! CAB Offers a good course on Managing Volunteers - to make this a productive relationship.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There is a limit to how much can be done by utilising community good will (for free, or on the cheap.) By all means publicise the opportunity, and then empower community to manage a facility if they choose to do. Forcing the community to take over a facility won't work.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community groups should be able to request ownership of community centres at an affordable rate	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	We think it is a good idea to have these services under one roof but again we have a reduced service in our partnership building ; Our library is open certain hours and with one person at times. We think in some areas this is unsafe Please ensure your staff are safe; I stopped using west calder gym due to the lack of people in the area There was an instructor near the gym then he was removed the only people around were the caretakers at the entrance too far away to hear any cry for help	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your concern. The council has a number of protocols to ensure staff are safe, ranging from lone worker devices, building security and back office support. Risk assessments are carried out and reviewed regularly to ensure that all mitigation measures are identified and implemented.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There are numerous facilities within the authority that need money spent on them to bring them up to a standard that anyone would want to consider taking on and the council may need to spend in order to save, both in financial terms as well as saving facilities that communities really need. There's nothing attractive enough for community groups to take on the potential transfer of facilities as it stands and the council also need to consider what support groups will need should they take on any community transfer of facilities.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Reducing the number of community facilities will have an adverse effect on West Lothian. Why not work in partnership with local community groups and have half the number of savings as local groups will be struggling for money in this current financial climate. These community facilities are a lifeline for people and enable lots of community groups to function.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will be working with community groups to consider options to maximise benefits for the public.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Reductions can't be at the cost of accessibility of facilities or community centres. Perhaps cost within the savings for a free transport (eg, bus pass carnet, disabled bus) for those who cannot easily access the rationalised new facilities and centres.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If the council is reducing all of these services and buildings surely that means that local taxpayers should be paying less council tax as we are receiving less in return!?!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is an excellent opportunity to go further and utilise council structure and resources to generate profit, by totally immersing as a private commercial entity	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Having put out 75 new bins at 5000 each and 9ver 30 vandilised I always question council finance, someone is making money off this bad that got to lay at (redacted) and (redacted) feet.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter which determines best practice for household services. The new twin stream service will improve the quality of material recycled and save money on disposal costs

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Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Close the Civic Centre, build houses on the land and move people to flexible working utilising the Partnership Centres.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Some services are moving back to more community based responses as it is clear customers want to interact more in their community as opposed to partnership buildings. There are service approaches being set up to offer one stop shops for people and this becomes challenging as facilities are reduced further. I recognise the need to cut such centres and make these savings but it is not always beneficial for customers and some services are finding it challenging to still deliver community based responses. A full review of each facility should be undertaken before this happens to ensure that vital provision in these centres is not lost or the service can reprovision itself before the loss occurs.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council would like to provide as many services as it can but national budget cuts are beyond our control. When these cuts are made we have no choice but to amend services as we are required by law to have a balanced budget. That said no change the council makes is done without review and careful consideration. Despite this work and effort some groups or individuals may be disappointed
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Buildings should either be sold off to the general public or donated to local groups. Private investment firms or property developers should not be allowed to purchase these properties	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council by law has to consider best value for all transactions (income and expenditure). All income received from the sale of buildings is reinvested in assets across West Lothian. Without this income, it would have a major impact on the condition of council assets.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Without proper investment from the council community groups can't afford to take on big assets such as community centres. The council need to look at a service level agreement and provide a small amount of funding for groups to deliver council services on their behalf. Covid and the current crisis has taught us that the importance of making these facilities viable to ensure they are their providing for our communities. I think it's vital to keep community centres in council ownership but the need ti review the management and maybe even apply a service charge to assist with costs.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	A mapping exercise will be undertaken to match service and activities to available buildings, both council owned but also other buildings owned by partners and local bodies. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is. The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Do not reduce but build new an sell older buildings	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. Although the council has generated significant savings from replacing old with new, the council does not have the capital resources to build new assets.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	You could look at extending your services via drop-in sessions offered at these community buildings instead of keeping HQ facilities. MAny employees are happy to work full or part-time home i believe so this could be further integrated into the offered service.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Why not close every council building and sell them off?... All I'm seeing throughout this sham consultation exercise is the intention to cut jobs, cut services to the public and to hell with the consequences.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	So basically West Lothian council don't want to be part of the community got it !	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Every community council should be informed of any building in the area of which they could use	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Community Groups will be supported to identify alternative facilities in the community.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	West Lothian Council are asked to pay for community centres when needing it for meetings/groups. Given that we are all under the same council i feel this should be free. It then impacts what the wlc staff can deliver as availability is restricted.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Community centres are run by management committees who retain income related to lets. Given the financial pressures facing local government, this model is no longer sustainable.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	And at what cost? Can there be a community hub feature integrated into nearby building at some time during the week to aid those who would be affected? (le - using a school or similar?) Not suggesting a constance presence at another building, but perhaps a few times a week would work?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	could the wider leisure building be used instead of community centres and these building i find as a much better experience to visit. save the buildings that are used the most.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas, working with all community partners. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.

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Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	crucial that active travel is part of the rationalising process - many people car free by choice, or by requirement, how will you ensure people are able to continue access to community spaces without a car?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Give the local community the powers to look after the community buildings, therefore no further need for Community Education workers, give the local councillors the powers to oversee how the buildings are being used and all funds raised to be used for the benefit of the community buildings and staff.im	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Let everyone who can work at home and reduce office space and energy costs this way. This is also better for the environment as fewer people driving to work will reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If we embrace mobile working to the levels of other councils we could reduce buildings even further and develop places like the Civic Centre for other uses. Can we not work with neighbouring councils to provide community facilities as a joint venture?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Do management committees for community centres still get all the money from lets? That always struck me as odd - the council covered all the costs of maintaining and staffing the buildings but got none of the income from lets. If that's still the case could the model change?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will make decisions in the interests of communities that may differ from commercial decisions made by private companies. The council will consider all ideas as part of this proposal
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would also be interesting to see how private organisations could smbetter support communities e.g you can book space in Dunelm cafe for meetings for example - could more of this kind of thing be done?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Communities must be able to evidence how they are to fund projects and also be aware that there should be no further investment from the council for repairs/maintenance etc. Assistance by elected members should also be involved with this process to ensure transparency in future years.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	People of West Lothian need the tools, training and the empowerment to take on these responsibilities, which I believe will eventually cause the massive reduction of facilities in the most deprived areas, where these facilities are most needed.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Our community facilities are essential to our communities. They support WLC's priorities especially during times of crisis. They are lifelines for many to reduce social isolation, stay warm, improve mental well-being and trusted safe spaces. Community Empowerment is great in principle but there needs to be a desire from the community to take them on. I would use them more effectively by removing the management committees and running them internally. increasing income generation, improving digital platforms that would make the centres work harder for WLC and ensuring they are still run in a professional, fit for purpose manner.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think that there needs to be terms in place for management committees to ensure that they do use their funds to maintain buildings etc. Where council services share the space there needs to be clear boundaries about who has use of the space when etc.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The council has an agreed framework in place to support current management committees.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Selling off unused property the council own or to groups is a good idea to cover the shortfall.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This needs to include the building and manning of a Partnership Centre in Winchburgh.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	How many council staff can work from home for at least part of their work?; How does this translate into a need for office space?; How does this map onto existing facilities, including related facilities such as Leisure Centres, Health Centres, Schools and Colleges?; Ensure all council facilities are made available to relevant external users at a cost.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Surly money could be saved/made but selling off council buildings currently sitting empty as like those at Waverley Street	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This suggests there will be a reduction in the number of community centres available for the public and businesses to utilise which is a concern. These community centres can often be the establishment that holds local communities together and allows smaller businesses and organisations to thrive. I would hope there is opportunity for communities to be consulted before closures are made to see if there are other ways that centres can be kept open with funding from local businesses etc to work in partnership, rather than sold off to private investors	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Partnership centres are working well. However, I have noticed a lack of privacy in some of them. Maybe a future thought for further projects, especially in line with GDPR	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council is aware of its responsibilities under GDPR and will take account of this in developing any future support to community groups.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	most high schools stay open to 22.00 so all night time , lets should be at your local high school, reducing need for community centres to be open at night.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities, including schools, in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	community centers are good but do not provide equipment for more dependent people for example hoists, commodes and trained staff in moving and handling	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Important to ensure these don't compete with each other in a detrimental fashion	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The communities most in need of these spaces are probably those least able to manage self ownership. This needs to be considered carefully and support given. A joint approach with shared ownership may be a muddle ground that still allows savings whilst protecting the most vulnerable	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council will offer support to community groups who wish to pursue asset transfer.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Reduce buildings that are not utilised to the maximum potential by either selling off or long term lets to the community - reducing offices for staff by allowing full time home working for employees that jobs can support this	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Why not consider trying to improve the offering of these locations? For example, at one country park I personally asked about a catering pitch but was told there was none available. There is no process to suggest one which would provide greater services to visitors and more importantly, increase WLC revenue. WLC need to think about how they can make more money, not just cut costs.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community centres and village halls are an integral part of the Communities and any consolidation should consider those people who do not have access to cars and mobility issues.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is another reason to continue to support WLL. Why not ask them to utilise/run the facilities? I appreciate however that WLL could NOT take this on if the council support is cut.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	West Lothian Leisure would be required to develop a sustainable business model

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Council partnership centres could be built upon and developed as true community hubs, working toward the 20 minute neighbourhood model. In order to achieve this, there needs to be appropriate budget to maintain facilities as there are some centres that are now badly in need of attention (eg in Bathgate, the shared garden space is not maintained and partly inaccessible due to outstanding repairs needed in the seating area, some meeting rooms are all but out of commission as the technology does not work, network ports are failing across the office space meaning that services need to move workstations around regularly)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities.. In Livingston there are many green spaces managed by the council, however, there are some residents who complain about the composting opportunity regarding newly cut grass and the green space, itself. If management of some of these green spaces directly adjacent to some private properties was awarded/given(?) to these residents it might cut the expense of mowing and probably improve the local environment, this withstanding, probably bring the community together? Certainly within a small locale. I see a time in the future whereby, residents managing their greenspaces may become annually competitive. To this end, would the donation of a compost bin, housed in the garden of a volunteer resident, effect some saving? Would a compost bin to all who would wish to compost , privately not be a saving?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Council buildings are only an asset to community groups if they have a viable plan for running them. They also need a lot of support and expertise in the initial stages to do this. It is very easy for an 'asset' to become a burden without it. It is also usually the wealthier areas that have the capacity to do this meaning that the areas of deprivation loose facilities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think you need to be wary of access to these facilities for people that don't drive or if there is not suitable active travel links or individuals with limited mobility.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I'd like to do weekly meetups for people to fix their stuff and learn fixing. At Livingston Community Shed we're looking forward to the premises just now. This is a great chance for all local people to engage and do something good back to the community. Hopefully, our Council can make this process quick and least painful.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Council will continue to support community groups to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Great care needs to be taken that e.g. village halls, which were built to benefit whole communities, are not acquired by a few individuals for private gain.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There is many council buildings that need a lot of building work done like roof repairs window repairs and instead of replacements there is patch up work being done which is then resulting in more work been carried out which is then costing more money	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	These opportunities need to be extensively promoted and encouraged otherwise people won't know they can play a part in retaining community properties.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. Council will continue to support local management committees and community education associations to develop the use of community centres and other facilities to meet local needs.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Shift the smaller community centres' activities to schools (after hours) and let charities and community partners use them.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities, including schools, in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	We would like a Partnership centre in Winchburgh	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	its a pity that some of these village halls etc cant be turned into flats/social housing, the buildings are already there and it could be a quicker turnaround than building brand new homes that for some people, are too pricey to afford.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Where the community groups do not wish to take ownership of the community facilities the council will consider whether there is any alternative use which can be made of the buildings or whether they are no longer required

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community centre to provide parent and child led events i.e cookery. First aid etc	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Strathbrock Community Garden is a new facility that has been designed and supported by both the Boxburn Community Council and the Broxburn and Uphall Development Group, (with it's subsidiary group -the Broxburn & Uphall Development Group). The Garden land is provided to us on a lease from WLC and involves several people in the administration of this rental. This is land that was unused, except a site where dog walkers coul allow their pets to defecate or urinate. It is now a productive and attractive hub where fresh, free vegetables and fruit are grown, with floral displays that entice folk of all ages to visit, appreciate and with many encouraged to take part in the cultivation. Bureaucratic management has negated the original request that this land could be obtained for the overall responsible BUD Group.; It would be good if such intransigence is not replicated across West Lothian.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Communities need far more support than has been previously made available to consider any transfer of assets from the council.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If the ownership is moved to community groups, the council is still providing in some cases facilities to open and close the premises and all the energy bills - I am not sure if it has changed but previously no cost was passed onto the community groups - there should be some cost attributed to them to cover these costs	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	-
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Like I say, volunteers AGAIN!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	the Council values the contribution that volunteers make in the delivery of community activities and will support community groups who wish to consider requesting ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Partnership have mot worked well in the lothians so far, legal safeguards need to be in place	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Be aware that volunteering is beneficial in so many ways and that may mean having local community center's etc. to encourage people to be involved.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The consequence of a failed project has to be spelled out in terms of reversion back to the council as a safety net it not necessarily an option once buildings etc are taken up!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Is it proposed to reduce the number of Community Councils; What input is being given by the Community Planning Partnership; a partnership strongly recommended in the Empowerment Act?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	There are no plans to reduce the number of Community Councils.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	So youth and elderly services will be hit hard again?!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This is where West Lothian Leisure should and could provide space to users of the above facilities mentioned, especially during the morning or afternoon, when sporting bookings are at their lowest.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	More taxes less service, where is the money going? In the chief executives pockets, this has to stop, cut their wages down a normal "living wage" that they expect us to live on.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	mentioned previously about buildings	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The council need to sort my housing before I'll even consider offering my opinion. The council ignores me constantly and is costing me 2 houses to pay for. My next step is to take my housing situation to all media outlets.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	need your support	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities		7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There is not enough space to list the money wasted in these areas along with staff who do nothing.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would like to see the modernisation of Falla Hill PS in Fauldhouse. Inadequately sized infant gym hall and asbestos everywhere.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Asbestos is a common product and exists in a very high percentage of buildings before its use was banned in 2000. Asbestos is a managed product and is safe unless it is disturbed. The council follows legislation very carefully in its management and uses the asbestos frameworks as laid down by the Health and Safety Executive
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	You are making it extremely difficult for hard working families who sacrifice time with their families to put in long working hours to maintain a reasonable standard of living to justify staying in Scotland. I personally would leave Scotland tomorrow if my wife don't want to remain close to family as all you do as a government is punish (by high taxes) the harder working families to sustain those living from a benefits system that cannot be sustainable in its present stat.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	In my opinion these facilities will disappear from our communities if they are not funded by the council as you will need to rely on volunteers and fundraising to ensure these continue. I feel our society is fracturing and need more support not less support. What happened to government pledges?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	It would not be possible to provide information on the governments pledges and we would encourage you to engage in discussions with your MSP to establish the status on any government pledges
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If you rationalise the available centres you cannot cut the transport links ppl will need to travel to them.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council will work with community groups to identify transport links to enable access to community activities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Close all Excite facilities except swimming pools and any other sector where there is no private sector provision. There is adequate private sector provision in gyms, bowling greens and golf courses, for example. Increase funding for coaches to increase participation in recreation.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Again, good idea. Lots of disused church halls that could be better used for more community events.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Church halls are owned and managed by the relevant church body
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Put back in traffic wardens and you could make a significant amount:	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	In theory a good proposal. In reality what happens to those members of the public living in small villages in the County that have limited or no means to access a community hall or facility. These partnership models work best in more populous areas. As public transport and the subsidies are also being reviewed, access to any facility by those disadvantaged members of the public continues to marginalise them.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If current public transport made it feasible for persons accessing different community centres as a result of closure then I would agree.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	While the council and government is involved in delivering public transport services, these services are being provided by private companies who need to recover costs. If usage is too low they may not be able to provide specific services
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Provision of local community facilities is core for building resilient communities. I recognise that there are other funding opportunities available to charities, groups etc. but concern for the long-term viability if strong leadership and commitment is not volunteered.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There are no (literally zero) village facilities already and no choice of GP. Stop gutting communities!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The provision of medical services is the responsibility of the NHS

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Details of where, what, how needed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Please protect the Lanthorn	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not everyone is online so need to be able to access council facilities easily and not have long circumvented trips.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposal covers the reduction of council buildings so it is possible some customers may need to travel further to physically attend a council office. We would encourage customers to access our services over the phone or via our website
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Will this impact on the more remote villages e.g. Fauldhouse, Seafeld? Will it impact on the length of time access to such services are available?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I don't know what this means in practice. What does "rationalise the provision" mean? Closing down village halls? Selling them off? What does "support community access" mean? That the halls have to be maintained by communities?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	There are a variety of options available. These could include, closures, amending opening times, changing staffing, allowing community groups to take responsibility
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This makes me sad	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Funding restraints in both capital and revenue funding means that the council can no longer afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Seems a bit hopeful as where will the company groups find the money.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There needs to be careful consideration of the facilities that are closed. In reality, community groups do not have the same structures or resources (e.g. time, money) in place to be able to run these centres. We have already lost an outdoor education centre in West Lothian. Community centres are important for bringing people together and reducing anti-social behaviour or feelings of isolation.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Only if it does not affect services offered.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Who will ensure upkeep of these facilities?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Some village halls are essential in supporting young people. These aren't reached easily and bus services and therefore may isolate individuals.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Only if kept within the community not sold off	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Looks loike erosion of facilities.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Dubious that this cut can provide better services.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would our rural communities be left without facilities if there are no volunteers?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	what does this mean?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	What does this look like in practice for our communities?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Don't isolate communities or leave them with nowhere to gather etc - encourage and incentivise local groups and charities to set up and use council spaces.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Small villages see their village halls as the hub of their community. Consolidating is not the right approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This will impact the people who need these places the most the young and the elderly	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	The Partnership Model in our village is not effective. It is poorly run and far less used than when the previous components were run as individual bodies.; The library is no longer functional as a library - perhaps the odd person using a computer - but the tables and chairs have been removed, so no encouragement to sit and work/read in the library. The swimming pool 'opening times' are reduced. The GP surgery lacks a full quota of GP's. The cafe has closed.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Again similar to an earlier comment people shouldn't have to travel 5-12 miles to leverage a community facility. That called travelling to another community. The facilities should be run effectively.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I fear reducing the number of community centres and village halls is going to impact hugely the services provided for after school care, mother and toddler groups, play groups and will then have an affect on other areas.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	I think you need to be very careful on this one as what you're really saying 'getting people to do stuff for free that we used to pay people for'. Short term that may work but long term it is a big ask.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Would be useful to know which community centres/village halls you have included to arrive at your estimate. Sounds good in theory, but in reality will any communities want/be able to buy these buildings? What will happen to them if they don't/can't?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council will support community groups who wish to take eon ownership of community facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	How have community groups been upskilled to manage this upcoming responsibility?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council will support community groups who wish to take eon ownership of community facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Village Halls are the lifeblood of communities - small ones in particular. Surely there needs to be places for people to meet and socialise? Essential to maintain good mental health.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The community empowerment comes as part of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. Through this act, communities can take control and responsibility for assets directly. Therefore, if there is a demand that community can have the opportunity to take ownership on what is delivered. And the council would support communities that want to take on facilities
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	We have a partnership centre which I believe is run by a management committee and I'd say it's not for the better of the community it should be run either by West Lothian council or possibly Community Council/Development Trusts who are accountable.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	There are big risks through this - building maintenance and safety	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Keep local aithority control and do not pass to non statuory and accountable local management groups	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community groups will likely suffer due to the lack of financial resources if they have to request ownership resulting in potential loss of services that offer much needed input and support - which are often more able to reach the more vulnerable people in society.; ; Also, will these buildings be left to just rot and devalue areas if they are not bought over?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	These new endeavours in buildings or land transferred must be co-designed and co-produced and led by local communities themselves and with the support and facilitation of local government and community planning to maximiser the community wealth building impacts.; ; These assets and the council itself are OURS - the PEOPLE'S the TAX PAYERS'. We must be treated as equal partners and have the final say. Not just every 4-5 years at the local council elections but in all these matters.; ; We also need assistance to create local Net Zero plans for each locality to give us focus and steer, as well as hope and a template for a sustainable future for our children.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Rationalising/ closing council community facilities would mean less affordable opportunities for those most in need to have warm, safe places to go to socialise, develop or learn new skills and participate in the community. ; ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It is assumed that community groups would have interest in taking ownership of council properties. How feasible is this given the skillset required to take on the role and the very limited capacity within communities but also within the council to support such arrangements.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. The Council will provide support to community groups who wish to take on ownership of community facilities.
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Not ideal - having space for facilities and community centres is a great way to help build community spirit and access support services.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Community centres should stay Council run.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If communities want services they need to put a little skin in the game, not sit back like passive sectators.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	If community centres/village halls are not being used fully each day then it would make sense to reduce the opening times or increase charges for hire. Would provide a reduction in staffing requirements and energy costs.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Whitburn community centre has went over budget and has went over time as well, the new partnership in Whitburn was the same, not doing very good on this point already	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Projects may have unforeseen circumstances or external forces that change the initial assumptions and estimates. COVID-19 and the lockdown impact for example. The council however has a balanced budget overall and meets the legal requirement to have a balanced budget each year
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	It's important that communities do not lose hubs and access to community and partnership centres. The library in Linlithgow, for example, is well used in the community.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	This does not empower communities, it costs communities money, opportunities and disadvantages them in the long run. The only way that these community groups can afford to take on community buildings is by passing the cost directly back to the community group using the facility i.e. the individuals using the service. We used to be able to run youth clubs in any council building for free, in fact it was expected and made up part of the managing committees constitution. We now have to pay for this in many centres and the reason for this is community asset transfer. As council services our budgets have not increased so the only way that we can pay these costs is use funds generated by the groups which are supposed to be been spent on excursions, resources. food and generally providing a far better service with improved access to opportunities. If we are lucky to have a big enough attendance we might be able to meet these costs without having to increase our entry fee but what are our participants getting here? A worse service with poorer access to opportunities than they got before but they should think themselves lucky we didnt have to increase their entry money!!! Recently we have seen more and more groups telling us that they cannot afford the weekly cost of attending our clubs which is at the most £1 per session where we work in buildings that do not charge us for let hire we can mitigate this discreetly and sensitively but if there is less and less buildings for us to use for free we are going to have to turn these people away. This goes so fundamentally against the values of community work that is abhorrent.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3A Empowering communities and reducing the number of council facilities	Again all I see here is a reduction in services but no reduction in what we pay so every year we seem to be getting less and less for our council tax but I'm sure around the corner there will be another council tax increase to cover your increasing cost amidst even more service cuts.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think its definately necessary to adjust the staffing ratio in early years as there is a large amount of under and overstaffing at certain times of the day. I would hope that the option to work longer/ less days eg 3 or 4 long shifts a week would be more favourably looked on than it is now in a lot of settings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is essential for parents being able (as required) to access places so they can contribute to wealth generation through work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposal will not affect access to places.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	That makes sense but it would need to be constantly reviewed unless there is a reduction in the number of houses being built in West Lothian as families want these places to be available locally, not to involve considerable travel to the nearest places. Also, providing an option for parents/carers to purchase additional hours should not put anyone at a disadvantage in that they can't access what they are entitled to or encourage private providers just to withdraw services completely. There needs to be a balance between private and public sector	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	ANYTHING THAT CAN BRING IN MAONEY IS GOOD BUT BY PARENTS PAYING FOR A SERVICES THEY WILL DEMAND MORE FROM IT	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds like this is 'right sizing' the service offering as parents are choosing private providers over the council provision. If this is the case, then the proposal makes sense. If it is reducing the provision per child then it is less appealing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposal is to match supply with demand.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early years staff are on their knees with changes made to provide the 1140 hrs model. Our working parents would like to see the nursery day aligned with the school day, term time and options for additional hours to be purchased, similar to the old wrap around service. Staffing levels need to be considered to reflect the increase in children with ASN, as traditional ratio's do not work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposal includes options to return to term time hours where this meets parents' needs and the purchase of hours.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There is a need for additional hours of childcare for some parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchase of additional hours for nursery care sounds like the best idea proposed in this survey.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	why are these thing even an issue, what have people been doing if not finding the cheapest most effective way of running society the right way?!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is good but people working should receive the 30hrs free childcare at 2 years old and not people unemployed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Eligibility for 2 year old provision is the responsibility of the Scottish Government.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money. The option to purchase additional childcare is an excellent idea, especially for working parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is needed, parent need it also children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Buying extra hours is a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again these changes must be customer and community led. Centralisation is not always desired and reading between the lines this is what the blurb suggests.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Scottish Government commitment to reduced class contact time will be considered alongside this proposal.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	More flexibility is needed on order to meet the needs of working parents. People who can afford it don't mind paying for wraparound care etc as long as the quality is good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is an excellent idea and makes good use of staffing and nurseries	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a great way forward, it previously happened and provided continuity of care. It also bring in additional income to the nursery making it partially self funding.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The nurseries staying open during the school holidays has been an absolute godsend for me. Being able to work and send my niece to nursery while I work is absolutely amazing. I don't know what I will do if these hours are being cut. I would probably have to give up my job as there is not another service in the area that provides the nursery care and hours that the local nursery provides.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	ELC settings open 50 weeks per year is a waste of money. Most of these setting are operating with half the kids attending during school holiday periods. We need a better balance of term time only and 50 week ELC settings!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Review of provision on going, 6 settings returned to term time in August 22. Can only be achieved where physical capacity is available.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	was there not already a review of early learning provisions over the last few years?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Yes, to provide 1140 hours, review on going.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I would have welcomed this when my children were in nursery as long as care stds are high	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Very much agree with this measure. So many staff on 52 week contracts, ELCASMs in place and the uptake has not been great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	ELC offer under review but 1140 hours is required for each place.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a good service, but I often wonder how we managed before with none of this!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Stop wasting money buying overpriced, poor-quality places from private sector baby farms when higher quality places which could be utilised at no additional cost exist in Council Establishments. Dare the Scottish Government to justify funding follows the child in the face of the quality crisis in private childcare.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	seems sensible when faced with having to make so many other cuts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea to give opportunity to 'buy' care within a child's normal care setting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	By allowing there to be affordable childcare it means parents and carers can be allowed to work and also to develop childrens play from an early age. However ensuring there is enough staff needs to be a priority in terms of early education as staff are often overrun and on the go constantly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Hopefully the price of purchasing extra hours is reasonable given that most parents now need to work to pay rent,/mortgages etc. The more people finding it easier to work than claim benefits the better but understantly it has to be viable for this to work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea if this is purchasing more hours from school nursery!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	A pilot in a small number of settings has started.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nice one	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree - supply and demand should align (in the current environment the council can't afford spare capacity)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The option to purchase additional hours of childcare would be very welcome	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The option for parents to purchase extra hours is very sensible - many children end up in split placements across two childcare settings because of the desire to use school nurseries to help with transition, but the need for more hours childcare than is offered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again the use of the word realign means to me downsizing and amalgamating. Delivering less, so less choice fir service users.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Option to purchase additional hours supports working families	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This would be good and make the nurseries more competitive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Fantastic option, this would provide good continuity for children rather than multiple placements	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This seems reasonable. Paying for additional hours is something some families actually want.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This sounds very community focused and will support families and promote employment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Allowing working parents to purchase extra time seems like a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Seems reasonable as long as charge is means tested and that impact on childminders who rely on their income is fully discussed and considered	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchase sounds an excellent idea - I do wonder where all the staff will be found given the current problems recruiting them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	WLC has close links with West Lothian College
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Great idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is an excellent idea giving parents the option of purchasing extra hours in our high quality early years centres. This could generate some extra income for the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think this proposal makes sense, however not entirely sure where the savings are coming from. I thought that there were generally not enough spaces/staff .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council have sufficient capacity in the sector.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Ok.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	During school break, where parents have older children in school may have not used up their allocated place in the early years provisions. I believe these are funded staff that may have been wasted throughout school holidays because of the drop in numbers of children attending.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Review on going of opening hours. Some settings returning to 38 weeks where physical capacity exists and demand met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	More term time settings should give greater flexibility for parents in terms of choice but also reduce costs in terms of staffing - shift working, etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Review on going of opening hours. Some settings returning to 38 weeks where physical capacity exists and demand met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds good. The model at St Nicholas' RC primary/nursery is one to follow as the kids are flourishing through the early years service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Providing flexible childcare to working parents is essential.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early learning and childcare is a vital service in our communities and needs to be supported adequately. There must be enough staff to deliver this service and that this choice must be there when parents are deciding what is the best option for their child. it is good that there is the option of purchasing additional hours of care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	pilot being expanded to more settings where capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a competitive market, it seems logical the the council should compete in this market so that the service moves some way toward a self-funded model.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	pilot being expanded to more settings where capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I agree that this is a sensible idea although I worry that some families will lose out if they cannot afford to purchase additional hours	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Buying additional hours is optional, 1140 hours will remain free to all eligible children.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As advised, there are better and more appropriate ways to deliver nursery services. Why haven't we looked at the savings that could be made whilst realising the benefits of different approaches?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Review on going of opening hours. Some settings returning to 38 weeks where physical capacity exists and demand met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Allowing the purchase additional hours is a positive change.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	pilot being expanded to more settings where capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Moving to a term time - matching the school day model would surely provide a huge amount of savings and be in line with almost all other local authorities. Surely it is here that the most significant savings can be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Review on going of opening hours. Some settings returning to 38 weeks where physical capacity exists and demand met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Earl learning and childcare needs to be flexible to be fully utilised by the residents of West Lothian. Having all spaces available between 9 -4 in the modern working world doesn't help those achieve viable work for those who need it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The majority of settings will remain 50 weeks with long opening hours.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early Learning is very top heavy too much intervention with HMIE and Care Commission, staff levels are very high especially during the school holidays, saving could be made by ensuring better regulation of the number of children attending - perhaps a pool of staff who can be employed for holiday cover, or regulating when holidays can be given. Food provision in nursery is a waste, there is too much and the majority of the food provided is put in the bin.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Review on going of opening hours. Some settings returning to 38 weeks where physical capacity exists and demand met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Can we also develop a structure that ensures that the monies for additional hours are collected or services withdrawn.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Monies for additional hours held centrally to offset any budget pressure.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Put nursery back to finshi at 30and same holiday has school finish at 330 save energy and heating	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Review on going of opening hours. Some settings returning to 38 weeks where physical capacity exists and demand met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Vital given the economic condition of the country.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Children need this to help learn for school so it is a must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Yes many parents pay into private nurseries but would rather have one childcare setting for there child and pay the additional hours - this would surely; Provide an income for the council nurseries	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Yes, continuity of provision very important.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Most parents are unable to have the childcare they require within council services and are therefore forced to pay for additional child care elsewhere	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	If I could pay for the additional time at this placement nursery I would!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	pilot being expanded to more settings where capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I would support this measure. At the current time, I do not use my child's full allocation as it 2 full days and 1-morning session which in not compatible with a work schedule because of this I need to pay for a private nursery for a full day and forgo the morning session. This means my child is split between 2 nurseries at the current time.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	pilot being expanded to more settings where capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Yes they should have an option to have the child stay longer for a fee.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	pilot being expanded to more settings where capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Ability to purchase additional hours in ELC would be very beneficial as it allows the child to stay in one setting every day for parents who work more tha. Two days a week. However, private nurseries will need to be consulted as they will lose older children and this may affect the cost of childcare for younger children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	pilot being expanded to more settings where capacity exists. Private nurseries are aware of the option.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree but time should be given for private nurseries to adjust to inevitable loss of numbers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	pilot in a small number of settings at present, so private nurseries will have time to adjust.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Allowing parents/carers to purchase additional hours is a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree, this will generate a good amount of funds	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This will be supportive of families (purchasing additional hours) and will also support maximisation of staffing across West Lothian	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchase of additional hours is a great idea as this could be a very cost effective way of ensuring children are in a safe environment and cared for allowing parents to work at a cost effective ratio for childcare. Education and child safety is prime.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree. However, there are ELC establishments with space which is not being fully utilised e.g used to be 40/40 or similar and now with a declining roll are running at less than capacity. More use should be made of these spaces.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I am in favour of parents having the option of purchasing additional hours in council run centres rather than providing the private centre with an opportunity to further enhance their profits.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think this is a good way to make savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is definitely something that has been needed for a long time. Although I do not agree with nursery and school being used as a childcare service, it would be so much easier for families to have their child in a council nursery all day even if it means paying for the extra time. It's something I would have considered. It's also great for the children to have that continuity and the ability to develop also without and interruptions. They also don't miss out on certain activities/events. I think this is a fab idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early child care is very important if parents wish to work and should be provided at a fair cost along with the hours that each child is entitled to.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This, too, makes logical sense. Not only does it offer additional revenue, but it also extends the range and the quality offer of affordable high-quality learning and childcare.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Reduce level	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Given the generosity of education and young peoples service budgets should be achievable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Parents who can afford it should pay for it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	If the proposal is to offer parents ability to buy more hours of childcare, then can we not slightly undercut private nurseries and make this a partially funded serves, as a minimum covering costs of staffing in these facilities.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	We would have purchased more hours for my daughter at nursery if it was an option	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Extra hours available at a cost is a great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The hours available in most nursery's are not enough to allow them to be used by working parents. Allowing extra hours to be booked and paid for would be a welcome addition to services; I know 6 families in our local area who are unable to use our nursery due to opening hours. In a nursery of 11 children, having 6 extra who all pay for additional hours would make such a big difference	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchase additional hours - is this an attempt to derive more revenue from these facilities? Makes sense if it is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Definitely happy for this to happen.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Let people look after their own kids or pay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think this is a great idea, I would have been happy to purchase additional hours for my childcare. Knowing that they are in a safe, familiar environment, and I wouldn't have to organise for my childminder to also take my child to nursery. This is a fantastic service to be able to offer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The provision of early learning is fundamental, especially in areas of socio-economic deprivation. However, there needs to be tighter boundaries around expectations and ensure appropriate staffing to meet this need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Council nurseries are not really an option for many working families due to the restricted hours on offer. A rethink of hours and potential to purchase extra seems like a positive approach. Private childcare is the most expensive in Europe currently	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Yes yea yes. Charging for extra hours at above cost could also help to generate revenue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The option of purchasing 'extra' provision is a sound proposal which I'm sure lots of parents would appreciate, with a good uptake providing costs are inline with other services providers. Closure of settings would be more concerning as this could decrease parental choice, make services less accessible; vary the quality/experiences and care offered by services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Its area needs investment and will save the taxpayer in the long run and create greater prosperity in the area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The option for parents to purchase additional hours is a great idea. A fantastic way to support parents who are working whilst also increasing WLC revenue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early learning has turned into child-minding and not education, so we should re-focus resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Being able to purchase additional hours of ELC in council settings is a hugely positive move and extremely helpful to working parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchasing additional hours is a great idea and I fulling support this. Hours need to be more aimed at 8-6 to support working hours instead of silly 3 hour slots etc am and pm "half day sessions" which don't support working parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I would have taken this option for my own children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Brilliant to be able to purchase extra hours in school nurseries	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think it is a good idea to realign provision and staffing in ELC settings to match parent choice for placements but this will need to be carefully planned and thought through. To ensure continuity for learners the time for planning, tracking and monitoring of learner progress and liasion time for staff discussion will need to be carefully planned. I will be interested to see how this area progresses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	this is much needed in communities to allow parents to work and afford childcare	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	For parents with young children this is a very necessary service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There may be some scope to match staffing levels more appropriately to holiday periods where uptake across nurseries has not been as consistent from parents. There would need to be clear rules and procedures about parents purchasing additional hours as this could not be ad hoc but would need to planned for	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Happy with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a good proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sensible suggestion	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Is this charging for optional extra hours? If so, a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agreed. Necessary change here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds okay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Seems fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I agree with this suggestion.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Could be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds fair and reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Although Im guessing this will impact on the private sector. I think this makes sense, if parents can access additional hours allowing them to continue working without having to use private and/or both school and private nurseries this makes sense. However, the offer of additional hours is key as if this doe not match the private sector provision then people will not use the school nursery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Seems like a good idea to enable parents to purchase additional early learning and childcare, particularly if it supports their own working arrangements	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Makes sense, also make it more means tested	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	More needs done to achieve savings - feels a modest target	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Please provide details of how you plan to make savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	What will the cost be to purchase more hours? Will this be affordable child care?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	So long as those parents who are not in a position to buy extra have options	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not sure how this would impact our family as not clear. Being able to purchase extra hours for my three year old would definitely be beneficial though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchasing additional ELC hours is fine, as long as all children are receiving the minimum requirement. Nursery staff are essential to deliver enriched learning experiences for children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This makes sense however having 2 year old in nursery is a bit ridiculous. 3 is early enough for funded nursery places. Reducing hours of nurseries over school holidays too for families that do not work. Might encourage some to find work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Maintain or improve resources and levels for special needs children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This makes sense. Still don't agree with teachers being removed from nurseries though as many nurseries now don't have planned learning experienced to enhance the provision. Just a comment as I know budgets are tight and this would increase spending instead of cutting.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	At the moment staff child ratio is not looked at some have more staff than children. Ultimately the child is the responsibility of the parent/parents ; Efficiency please	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea - early education is vital for communities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This makes sence.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I support this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This sounds like a good idea. However the notional "full" utilisation may not be realistic!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds a very good proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Yes!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Looking at provision and utilising resources could provide massive savings. The option for parents to purchase additional hours is interesting.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I would purchase wraparound care at my sons nursery. This used to be available years ago.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea to be able to purchase extra hours	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchasing additional hrs would be beneficial as income stream and i am sure could be beneficial to some working parents, for those that can afford it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	In a time of austerity some working families might want to purchase more early learning and childcare facilities but will not be able to afford the charges. A difficult situation for families.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Staffing at nurseries should match the needs of the children. Ratios of staff to children should not be increased or the level of provision children receive will be reduced.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposal is to match supply and demand more closely.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	We might be open to buying additional hours in our preschool, but it would need to cover our need - which is nearly two full days. And we'd be fine with paying what we currently pay for private nursery. Our preschool is excellent and has made the transition to primary school for our eldest almost seamless.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Being able to purchase additional hours would be beneficial to parents - especially to work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Very important opening statement and must fully agree with any initiative that supports early learning and childcare.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds okay, if done with consultation and workload assessments	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I am baffled how what you say here creates a saving. Clarity of language is required. It appears that by fully utilised you mean consolidation. If there are nurseries with low uptake then it seems acceptable to review how that can be improved.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a MUST and needs to be clear and transparent to the parent/carer. Provision should be what the community requires not what someone thinks should be.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Provision is based on survey responses by users.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is an excellent proposal offer the purchase of additional hours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	If you can offer a better service that suits the needs of the people of West Lothian whilst making a saving of £2.3 million - What are you waiting for ?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Very beneficial for working families	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Much needed for pre 3 year old	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree - sounds reasonable. Need to attract and retain good quality staff by supporting their needs too.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Makes sense but there has to be a structure to ensure local communities have provision linked to the primary schools that the children are going to attend and not completely driven by parent choice	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The link to primary attendance is reflected in admission criteria.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a good idea, but it should be paid for not free, maybe at a reduced sensible rate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	So you don't do this today. What on earth are you doing under utilising services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Makes perfect sense. Why wouldn't the council do this? This is why the council is accused of waste. We need to get more efficient in use of limited resources. Wonder why this can't be applied to other education settings too (i.e. primary schools with tiny pupil numbers).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I agree with this in principle but consideration must be given to parental choice, partner provider nurseries and childminders to ensure the process is fair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Childcare needs to be affordable to enable parents to work. Offering the option to pay for additional hours will give added flexibility to working parents and this provision should be maximised to make best use of existing facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This sounds a reasonable adjustment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As long as these savings have no impact on the provision of early learning and childcare then I have no issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The option to purchase additional hours at a council nursery would be welcomed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchasing additional hours is a good way to create income from a service which would be used by many parents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Does this mean some nurseries may close? For some parents the option to purchase additional hours would be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. No closures are planned as part of this proposal.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Councils should absolutely offer additional hours to purchase as its almost impossible to work around school/ nursery hours and so many parents will chose costly private nursery or after school care instead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Childcare is much needed so that parents can go work so this is a great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nursery hours provided do not seem to be used to full potential by customers - so provision of extra hours having to be paid for may show them the good value they get than from a private nursery, while creating monies for WLC.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	good idea to help with childcare but it would be hard for the nursery staff to meet the needs of the children.; need to be more support for parents to be able to work and pay for child care as the cost is just too much so i dont work due to this.; eligible 2s is only for people on benefits, what about other folk? no help for folk who are not on benefits who are struggling	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree with the additional hours as it will help a lot and will allow pupils to use the same nursery all times instead of splitting between multiple.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree with allowing parents opportunities to pay for extra hours in school nurseries providing you employ staff to facilitate it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As long as its a realignment of the services offered not staff cuts, as these Early years staff are the beginning of our future generations educational pathway.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Staffing will be determined by parental demand and national supervision ratios.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Money could be made from running childcare as a business but it should be administered separate from the school and already over stretched staff and management .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree that additional hours should be able to be bought thus utilising structures already in place.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Something isn't working here currently. Often there are more staff members in the ELCC than there are children! This seems crazy. What a shocking waste of resources. I don't know enough about this to give a suggestion but I know that resources are being wasted currently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Matching parental choice for nursery placements makes sense and allowing parents to purchase additional hours makes sense. Not all families need the 'free childcare provision' that is currently offered so review this, SPEAK TO PARENTS, and make an informed choice from there.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is good if you provide this across West Lothian. As a parent who couldnt use Council services as the nursery didnt have any option to purchase extra hours i would have welcomed this. Instead the money went to private provider instead of the Council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good idea to offer the option to purchase additional hours however have you considered whether this will impact places available for children who are funded? Will this overwhelm our nursery teachers and impact on the learning experience for children. How does this compare with offering funding through more private nurseries?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Additional hours will only be offered where capacity allows. This offers an additional choice to parents who may not want a private nursery.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This sounds like council nurseries are becoming private nurseries. It sounds like the reintroduction of the wrap around model. Have your staff been consulted about this? ; It is a good way to make council nurseries more profitable at least.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. This consultation is open to staff.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Option to purchase additional hours sounds interesting also Parents should be charged a late fee for not collecting their child on time from nursery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. There are no plans to introduce a 'late fee' a; though nurseries work with parents to encourage pick up on time.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Paying for additional requirement is good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree but has to be affordable for parents	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sadly I feel this is inevitable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This should have happened a long time ago	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Allowing parents to purchase additional hours is a good idea. More high quality staff is required for nurseries.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	A really good idea to be able to purchase additional nursery hours in council settings, a huge opportunity & massively under explored. The reasources in nurseries are vastly under estimated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There must not be cuts to this provision as it is vital for working parents and also provides development and learning for children with trained staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This sounds sensible. ; I would purchase additional hours if offered. It's a waste to have provision under utilised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree the council should limit ELC provision to the funding provided by the Scottish Government.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Additional hours must be paid for as set out in statutory guidance.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Allowing parents and carers to purchase extra hours would be very useful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I 100% back this and wish it was available when my children were in nursery. My youngest was in nursery during 1140 expansion but we only used 12 hrs per week because an 8am-6pm day was inappropriate for our needs. We had to pay for private nursery for a 3rd day. 3 days at 9-3 would have been a much better option for our family as I worked 3 days a week at that point. Would have been great to have had the option to purchase extra hours for consistency rather than use a private nursery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I don't understand why the council would't already be making 'sure that all resources available for early learning and childcare are fully utilised to support high quality service delivery' This seems like a very easy win!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early learning and the ability to access suitable hours are essential to allow parents to work. Our early learning practitioners are a huge asset to the workforce, and trained quality staff are crucial to be able to give children an excellent start in life.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The flexibility of this sounds positive but I worry that the constantly evolving ELC provision is becoming more of a baby sitting service than early childhood education provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The service is delivered in line with national statutory guidance.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	More options for affordable and flexible childcare, the better	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Provide flexible arrangements for busy families. Allow more local social enterprises to offer services at venues or in their or other families' homes. Make able-to-pay families contribute more to childcare services and subsidies lower income families more. Set up childminder/ babysitting clubs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The intention is to increase flexibility and choice. 1140 hours is, however, a universal entitlement and cannot be charged for.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Offering additional hours for childcare is a good idea. However, you need to offer it at a competitive rate. A child in the nursery at the school I work at was going to make use of this facility (our Nursery is trialling this initiative) but it turned out it was going to cost more than the private nursery he currently attends! This is a no- brained for parents in the current financial climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Fees are benchmarked against the private sector.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I have always thought that nursery placement hours are designed only for non-working parents and are virtually useless. I think all working parents would actually benefit from council reviewing opening hrs and placement hrs they can offer for parents. However if council can offer reasonable rate for additional hrs I think a lot of parents would consider that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Get children out of the poor quality, over priced private sector. The SNP government's insistence on using taxpayer's funding to prop up a failing private sector is nothing short of scandalous and verges on the corrupt, in my humble opinion. How many of Nicola's cronies own private nurseries?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal will increase flexibility and choice.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree. Is there robust evidence of improved outcomes from the long-term expansion of early learning and childcare?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	While a great idea for raising money, staffing levels will need to be considered during this process. I have spoken to a few nursery staff that have a lot of concerns around how their nursery would handle the number of children that would be expected if all slots were booked as they currently feel under a lot of pressure to complete administration tasks as well as keeping up to date records of activities and progress that each child makes without the addition of any extra children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Parents couldn't afford to purchase additional hours	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Costs are benchmarked against the private sector.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree to allow parents to return to work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This will be very handy for working parents	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Why this wasn't a thing before is insane like people are offering to pay more and you are only now just like oh yeah ok we will take your money for that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a good proposal if parents could purchase additional hours in ELC. As a parent of a 2 year old in private childcare it is financially crippling however it's the only option we have so we are able to work. To give him continuity when he goes to council nursery, purchasing extra hours is something that would interest us as a family	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a vital Service For Parents form all walks of life. Cheaper child care and free child care for so many hours a week is a great help For many	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Additional hours should always be paid for by parents. This should not be subsidised by the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. This is the proposal.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is an area that shouldnt be compromised as early child care is essential to help and keep many parents/carers in work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As long as these additional hours dont cost more than they earn. What happened to after school clubs? There are None for ASN children/ teenagers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Out of school care is not covered by this proposal.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good plan to introduce purchasing options for extra hours	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is a very important need for some parents. Some need to work and others need respite from looking after the children due to their mental problems	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Seems fair. However changes have already been made to what some ELCs provide. Which leaves them at a disadvantage in relation to parental choice.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Falkirk Council do this and it works quite well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This sounds like a good idea. You should give rich parents the option to pay for all their sessions too.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Universal free provision of 1140 hours is a statutory requirement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	If available resource in council operated nurseries etc is not being fully utilised it would sound like a good idea to allow for extra hours to be purchased. ; How does a revenue generating opportunity translate to saves. ; How are actual saves being delivered - does it envisage staff reduction or redeploy arrangements.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree 100%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Needs must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is an excellent proposal as parents/carers would benefit from the purchase of additional hours for early learning and childcare	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This would be most welcome	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchasing extra hours would help working parents and will provide more money for perhaps more staff	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	it is a good idea of kids will have their place assured will provide continuity to the kids	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	sounds like a good idea as long as everybody gets free nursery first	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As long as there is enough places for all in nursery placements.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	great idea as long as there is space and everyone gets their allocated hours. next option if available	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	good idea if children get their free sessions first. don't think the council could accommodate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Parents purchasing services for early learning and childcare only benefits the affluent, the poorer in our society cannot afford to pay so their children are discriminated from the start, but nothing new there, i don't have children but i can see the unfairness in this system.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Offering paid for hours gives greater flexibility and choice to parents who want their children to attend a Council nursery.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	We need to invest in our children so would not agree to any cuts in this area however streamlining would be appropriate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal is to match supply with demand.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Should have funded private sector to provide extra hours. It has cost the council a lot of money	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal gives increased flexibility and choice to parents/carers who prefer their child to attend a Council nursery.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Whilst it makes business sense to ensure buildings are open with levels of staff / children ratios it remains to be seen what the outcome would be if buildings were closed at certain times and staff redeployed. More detailed information would be required with regards to realignment of provision and staffing and whether this would be on a frequent basis - if so where is the continuity for children if staff are moved within establishments and what would morale be for staff?No thank you	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Staff are already redeployed each year between establishments to match supply with demand.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again, find it ludicrous that young children are being affected - they need this development, and we need ensure they get it for the best possible start in life - Corporate Parent responsibilities, GIRFEC and The Promise need to be kept in mind at all times	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal is to match supply with demand. Corporate Parent Responsibilities, GIRFEC and The Promise will not be affected.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	So effectively a private nursery that working poor would not be able to afford	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal gives increased flexibility and choice to parents/carers who prefer their child to attend a Council nursery.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	So, does this mean that some services currently being provided free of charge will become chargeable? That will really help those on the lowest incomes who depend on these free services to be able to work god knows how many hours just to feed, clothe and house their families. I'm sure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Detailed modelling of a new school day would take place as part of the implementation of this proposal, with input from teaching professionals.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	You'll need to add more Early Years staff!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Your plan and the savings seem to be counterproductive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	"purchase additional hours of early learning and childcare in council settings" suggests that poorer families will be hit more as they won't be able to afford this. Not clear what the policy will actually cause.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	1140 hours of free ELC will still be available. Offering the ability to purchase additional hours increases flexibility.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Parents to pay more for their childcare basically.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	No, 1140 hours will remain free but with an option for parents to purchase additional hours .
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Maybe save money by offering more hours for those parents who are at work, rather than those who have kids and don't work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Its is now a statutory requirement for local authorities to provide all eligible children with 1140 hours free ELC.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The service should be moved back to education instead of the "child minding" service the council has turned it into, moving all nurseries back to the old hours would mean it is fully utilised as it once was and a further service to cover the holiday period that "working" parents can utilise would be better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Its is now a statutory requirement for local authorities to provide all eligible children with 1140 hours free ELC.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Towards fee paying schooling? Fees amounting to at least £2.3 million? Shame	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This would provide additionality but would it be utilised with the current financial climate?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Within current resources
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Living in the ever growing Calderwood community it seems wrong that there are children living in the Calderwood community and are unable to attend the Calderwood Nursery and are instead being allocated East Calder Nursery.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	unlike primary /secondary school there is no catchment for early learning and childcare.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No!!!! There is already a MASSIVE problem with the primary caregivers having to sacrifice huge amounts of time, money and work experience so ensure that childcare needs are met.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There is still a lot of plastic within some of the council nurseries - this needs to change to more natural resources. West Lothian should have a West Lothian council 0-5 nursery where parents can access it for children of all ages. Ran almost like a private nursery at a slightly reduced rate. This will encourage young mums, low income families to work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The use of plastic resources is being phased out in ELC settings. Council nurseries at present do not have registration to provide places for children under 2 years nor the physical space, resources nor staffing to provide.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nurseries are open far too long and now an excuse for parents not to be with their children. Surely Sure Start style centres would be a far better approach to teach parents how to be with their children and bond rather than sending them to someone else for hours, longer than school hours, each day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not clear if the proposal here is to remove the current 1150 hours per month of early learning childcare services? If it is, this would be disappointing. Otherwise, option to purchase more hours seems sensible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	1140 hours is not being removed as now a statutory entitlement for each placement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Staff cuts unacceptable in this sector.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	A re-alignment of places with demand.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	It's ridiculous how long many nurseries are open for each day. Tiny kids spending long days in nursery.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	1140 hours is not mandatory for parents/carers to use.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think nurseries should be open in line with the school day instead of being open to 6.00pm .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Review on going of opening hours. Some settings returning to 38 weeks where physical capacity exists and demand met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Do not cut nursery staff or provision available to parents. This disproportionately affects working women and mothers who following return to work. I do not think this is an equitable solution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	1140 hours is mandatory for ELC placements.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The whole ELCC implementation not been carefully considered or supported from the start. In practice this has been a mess.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Scottish Government Policy
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again, this should not result in an overall reduction in the budget allocated to early learning and childcare. Investing in children from a young age has been proven time after time and delivers long-term benefits.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Would this mean the closure of some nurseries and more emphasis on private arrangements?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Disappointing, the changes to nursery provision are awful, the 52 week model is very poor.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is required to provide 1140 hours free ELC for every eligible child.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I honestly cannot agree with these proposals. These children are not commodities to be used as a means of raising money!!!! Where are the children's Human Rights in all of this. Many of these young children who are only three years old are in nursery for 10 hours two full days per week and the council want to expand on these times. That equates to more hours than your average secondary aged school pupil or the average working day for an adult. Please, please think of these tired little people who are totally exhausted when picked up at 6.15 pm.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is required to provide 1140 hours free ELC for every eligible child. It is not mandatory for parents /carers to use.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again those who cannot afford childcare for their children will miss out on important educational experiences. Parents will be unable to work due to childcare difficulties. children from disadvantaged families will again lose out and the poverty gap will increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Buying additional hours is optional, 1140 hours will remain free to all eligible children.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	childcare should be made affordable and easy for parents so that they can afford to work without the fear of leaving their children. It should be safe, inclusive and a partnership between parent and the childcare provider - not sure how you will save 2.3 million when it is not right now.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Buying additional hours is optional, 1140 hours will remain free to all eligible children.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	how is this possible within current Scottish government commitments?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	1140 hours will remain free.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	What good will this be to the private Child Minders, they struggle enough without taking even more time from them and making parents pay the Council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Parents/carers can already purchase additional hours if they wish with a childminder beyond 1140 hours.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I struggle to see how this will help working parents. However the system now seems to be more of a "one size" fits all model, which can be difficult and expensive for some families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	1140 hours will remain free. Buying additional hours optional.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	You are just moving the cost to the parents/carers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sounds like getting parents to pay £2.3m for any required additional early learning and childcare? Employ any available parents to help deliver early learning and childcare.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This blurb completely fails to explain where these £2.3m savings actually come from? It's a disservice to suggest you can find savings that significant without having any negative impact on young children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Making it harder for parents to work and increase in childcare costs in an already cost of living crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	In my opinion, Council nurseries should revert to only being open when the schools are open which will reduce reduce costs massively.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council are required to provide 1140 hours free, high quality early learning and childcare.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	A huge amount of money has been wasted on nursery restructure already. Council run nurseries are open throughout holiday periods with less than 10 children in the building throughout the whole day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council are required to provide 1140 hours free, high quality early learning and childcare.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Alot of the families that use early learning centres do not have money or they would use private nurseries. Council run nurseries have been in better conditions that the private nurseries, and are safer by having the correct staff to child ratio and ensuring training is given to these staff members. Do not loose this!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Pre school childcare is extremely important for the well being of the children and should not be only for those who can afford to pay for extra hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There is no plain speaking about what will be cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Kids deserve the best opportunities at an early age.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	How can you claim to provide "high quality service" by spending £2.3 million less? Saying the Council will "make sure" says nothing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	as mentioned previously west Lothians processes/policies related to children who require additional support needs from nursery onwards is incredibly poor - would this make it better?- only for those who can afford it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nurseries should be free	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	What about parents who don't have a lot of income?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	What impact will this have on the number of nursery places, West Lothian is experiencing an influx of young families especially through the building of more houses which will only increase over the years.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	How is this a saving? You are claiming to extend service choice for parents, this increases the burden on the service. Can a public consultation be carried out for this proposal so that we can see the business case and project earning from offering additional hours at market rates to parents?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Pilot operating after approval at Education Executive committee.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Childcare facilities need to be 52 weeks in year and reflect the normal work day of perents. They must also be affordable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	These extra hours are often used by parents for the wrong reason. Young children need time with their parents too and it seems they will spend less and less time in the family home.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I don't understand enough of what is being asked here. A saving in this area when demand is increasing seems tough to meet.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Reading between the lines, this proposal isn't to save money it's to make children a commodity where you can make money from them. Children should not be part of the council making money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	You need less EL managers and you probably need to look at reducing the hours the nursery is open for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	If you want to save money in early years education, you really need to look at what is beneficial in children and families. You need more early years practitioners, and ey officers. If a nursery is open in the summer and is fully staffed however, there is only a third of the children attending because they don't need to be attending over the summer, you are wasting money. Parents don't need to be able to buy nursery hours from lc nurseries. They need the opportunity to access childminders private nurseries or have flexible working hours within their own work environment. Parents cannot buy extra school hours. The same should apply for Nursery.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is not cost effective. Baby sitting service now with little educational value. Lots of staff ratios to few children regularly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The council already fail to fund resources for early learning and childcare to fully utilised to support high quality service delivery in the ELC settings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Don't know what this means? Are you again reducing staff?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Contemptible that you are trying to privatise nursery services. Do not do this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Unfortunately, these services have become cheap childcare for struggling working parents. Anything we do to alter them will have an adverse effect on the those who can afford it least.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The way the increased hours has been rolled out in WLC is completely baffling! The nurseries which are open during holidays are overwhelmingly under used with several members of staff! This has surely used lots of funding to pay for all the extra staff required to support the long hours! Other councils have offered term time which ensure continuity and ties in with other children in a school setting. I have not even met all of the staff in my child's nursery! This is now more child care than early education!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council are required to provide 1140 hours free, high quality early learning and childcare.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Do not support as will hurt those on low incomes who won't be able to pay for this, inequalities will increase	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I can't see how you can cut staffing as my understanding is in order to meet the hours now offered to parents over 52 weeks of the year a huge number of staff are required to cover the opening hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Need to provide help for working parents in cost of living crisis	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Does realigning provision involve staff losing their jobs?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Invest and insure in qualified staff to enhance this service. Please don't add to the already over pressured environment and demands on a very overstretched childcare environment. Where staff are leaving after 20 years due to the stress and lack of support. Listen to the staff and not always the service users.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Proposals before are for saving money on Education.; The statement; 'the council will make sure that all resources available for early learning and childcare are fully utilised to support high quality service delivery'. Further savings of £2.3 million proposed here. Optimistic!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I'd recommend looking at early learning from parental point of view. We'd love to spend time with our children but also, we want to work and build in our carriers (well not everyone) but 22 hrs and 21minus a week is not feasible for parent to do both so many of us is standing with a choice of child or carrier not mentioning second child. I could write an essay in here about managing logistically full-time working mom and full-time working dad and household balans, etc. so maybe instead of giving chance to buy extra hours at the nursery give those extra hours to the parents who actually contributing to the system by working fulltime. And instead of supporting "forever not working ppl who are just taking from the gov not contributing at all". I am all about helping but to the point - and not exploiting system and punishing others...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	By removing teachers from early learning had a negative effect on children's education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	What effect will this have on low income families. Will nursery practitioners have the option to move centre without interview based on this?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Taking away services again penny pinching where it shouldn't be.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I don't agree with any of this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not good enough.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Like I said earlier what's the point if we cannot support the new generation growing up in West Lothian	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think other councils have delivered the expansion in a more effective way, with nursery hours more in line with the school day and holidays. I feel a lot of money has already been wasted on delivering a service which is not being utilised.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	nursery provisions should return to term time. During holiday periods nurseries are over staffed due to fluctuating pupil level.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I do not support this proposal. early learning is crucial and saves losses later.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Better coordination of when ELC pupils are choosing to attend would help to staff establishments in a more efficient way.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	It is important to give good early years service as this is the first important step for children. This seems a huge estimated saving. You need to be sure children get a good service as this can have a big impact on their development for preparation and behaviour in school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No this is a vital service for kids	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The increased childcare hours within Council Care / Nurseries facilities have clearly not worked and benefited those that it was intended for - with the national government struggling to align the strategy with providers and Councils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	they need your help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early years may be in ratio, but staff are on their knees trying to do there jobs with the paperwork aspect, very little time on the job to do it, behaviour needs, ASN. Size of nurseries needing areas covered etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Childcare and early learning centres are key to the economy and well-being of the country. Good and appropriate provision ensures a healthy society today and guards against building up issues for the future. Streamlining should mean more and better quality provision and not be an excuse to cut back.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Against this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Seems optimistic given that there are problems with after school care already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Disagree in the strongest terms	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	How many current providers are under-utilised/over-staffed? How might parents buying extra sessions/ time (and generating income) impact on provision of "free" government provision?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal is to bring supply and demand more closely into line. Statutory entitlement will be prioritised above the sale of surplus hours.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Carer/infant ratios should not be reduced. As seen, this can lead to issues - even death.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal is not to reduce ratios.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Children suffer again	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Do not attempt to save money here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal seeks to match supply and demand more closely. Provision is based on survey responses by users.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	In essence become a private nursery. Shambolic idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Children paying for cuts again.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Service should be left as is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Staff need time to plan and more staff required to support needs. More money investment in special needs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Do not have young children but would prefer to see services enhanced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Offering additional hours will enhance the service.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Still can't see how that will help- understand that budgets have been cut but surely that's other ways.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again providing reduced education from professionals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. There is no plan anywhere in this proposal to reduce education from professionals.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not sure exactly what you mean but as a parent who relies highly on childcare to be able to work I would be very worried that any changes made are going to impact each family affected and cause other problems.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to increase services to working parents who rely on childcare.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Staffing in schools and nursery must be maintained and improved upon. Not cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand, not cut standards.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early education is already at breaking point we need to support these services nit save	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand, not cut standards.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nursery provision has improved over the years however is still a barrier for parents to get back into work after having children and so reducing this support will harm the economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand, and not impact on parents/carers.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	WLC provision is inadequate as is, plus the cost of additional hours is prohibitive to all below middle earners.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The cost of additional hours is benchmarked against the private sector.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is unsustainable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	dont cut services for kids, if you offer to buy additional hours, these need to be full days on a repeating basis, not half days on an occasional week by week basis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Additional hours can be booked to meet parents' needs.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	That is bloody expensive. More expensive to send my child to go to a council one than a private one. Useless.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Costs are benchmarked against the private sector.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Cuts to early education regardless of how you view this. I don't know enough about how it currently is but any disinvestment in early years learning should not be supported.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand and offer a new expanded service. This is not a cut in standard of service or disinvestment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No happy at all. It's already difficult to provide the service because of lack of money so any saving will be against the best child interest.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand and introduce a new service, and so is not a cut to standard of service.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	disagree with these proposed cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Making nursery care more flexible, with the option of of purchasing more hours,could make this service more user-friendly. We could not use the council nursery because the hours offered did not match out specific childcare needs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Realigning provision for early years sounds draconian measures, this is the most important part of our educational programme, vital to all aspects of development, from speech language therapists to social care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Unsure how a saving of £2.3 million, can be achieved in Early Learning - without massive cuts to the provision of WLC Nursery places. If true, is the concept the Private Nursery Sector will take on significantly higher importance? A very price for young parents to have to pay.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The proposal is to match supply with demand, and not to pay a high price for private nursery places.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There are already staff shortages. Will this be addressed?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Does this mean that there will be reduced free hours for early learning and childcare and more need to purchase additional hours which eventually does away with free hours completely?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	No, 1140 hours will remain free but with an option for parents to purchase additional hours .
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no opinion on this as parents already get much more than used to be provided. But would suggest wider catchment and investment in sperate nursery buildings from primary schools to support this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Don't care - council settings open after my working hours start and close before I finish. Have to request hours at a private setting regardless	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	More young people cuts?? Early Learning cuts?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	do feel early learning has been redesigned over the past few years	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not sure here. Drop staff and problems occur. Not sure waht you are suggesting here	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	A glorified baby sitter is not what nursery is about, these kids need structure, thats all ill say to early learning	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	What are the re-design plans? However I do not agree that, preschool, nursery, after school services etc should be undertaken in partnership centres.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again what does this mean? Realign service provision?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Are their enough resources available	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	How will this look for staff?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no involvement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not sure on this one	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	less staff	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No commen	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As per previous comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not applicable to me	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No views	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	ive noted the repsone above in the social care section	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no views on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not enough detail to assess impact of changes proposed	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Difficult to comment without further detail as I do not have knowledge or experience in this area.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Don't understand the link between the statement and the saving.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not sure how this can be done	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	It is admirable that WLC can maintain delivery of childcare and early learning provision and at the same time make estimated savings of £2.3 million. Does this not suggest incompetence up to now?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	No, it reflects the necessity of cutting expenditure.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Difficult given the cost of living crisis.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	There should be no cost of living impact from this proposal.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Seems to propose that some parents can 'purchase additional hours' if they are disposed to.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Does this mean increasing ratios in nurseries?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. National supervision ratios will continue to be met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Please see previous comments relating to children and young people.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Will more need from parents with 2 year olds who are vulnerable still be met?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. The Council will continue to meet statutory requirements including 2 year old provision.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early learning and childcare are already stretched.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sad to have to do this in current cost of living crisis	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	How many hours will you be asking parents to pay for? What about the 1140 hours ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Parents who require childcare in excess of the free 1140 hours of early learning and childcare already have to purchase this at their own expense.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Is this reduction essentially being made through staff cuts and increasing child/ carer ratio?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand. National supervision ratios will continue to be met.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not all nursery's need to provide 1140 hours move some back to term time only. Introduce a kindergarten stage within early learning. Biggest source of learning comes from play! Provide staffing and funding to accommodate this in schools.	4. The council is already doing this.	Some nurseries have moved back to term time only, to provide this choice to parents/carers who require it. The issue of a Kindergarten stage will be determined nationally.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Make better more use of child-minders and playgroups - not all children and families want a large nursery setting to be the main care provider in early years - not everyone who is eligible is using services as designed - better partnerships with the private sector, charities and social services would be beneficial.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is already in partnership with childminders, playgroups and private sector business which can meet the national quality standard and deliver the full entitlement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Integrate other provision eg benefits/employment support/health etc	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Additional hours need to be financial sustainable for parents if charges are introduced	4. The council is already doing this.	Charges are comparable with those imposed by the private sector.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This service is a priority	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Our infants need a local service that is convenient for them and their parents, they need to be able to mix with their peers in the local community.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I believe nursery classes attached to schools should revert back to 8 until 4pm and no holiday provision , this would save money . Larger nursery schools can cope with a wider time provision. Perhaps have 1 year at nursery and then the children go into a Play based model in the school. This would cut down on staff cover that is often needed in school classes.	4. The council is already doing this.	Review of provision on going, 6 settings returned to term time in August 22. Can only be achieved where physical capacity is available.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Parents should be given choice but so do staff. It needs to be a balance of finding the right solution for everyone. 8 - 6 nurseries don't work properly and more should be returned to 8 - 4.	4. The council is already doing this.	Council is already reviewing ELC provision and some settings are returning to term time where physical capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Purchasing extra hours would be beneficial to all. However, ELCs have already lost manu of their fully qualified teachers due to previous restructuring and cuts - this needs reversed.	4. The council is already doing this.	All ELC setting still have access to GTCs registered teachers.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Align nursery hours with school hours to help parents out! Falkirk council do this and it is much more cost efficient than nurseries been open over the summer with only half the kids there!	4. The council is already doing this.	Some settings provide a term time option where physical capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	So parents pay	4. The council is already doing this.	1140 hours is still free, additional hours not.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The elc should be redesigned so that children are in nursery only during school day and over 39 weeks same as the school other authoritys have managed this and done so whilst still matching 1140 hours.	4. The council is already doing this.	Some settings provide a term time option where physical capacity exists.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Children should have more hours	4. The council is already doing this.	1140 hours is the statutory provision in ELC and parent can now purchase additional hours in some settings.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Ask the parents before deciding what they want and need before making decisions affecting them	4. The council is already doing this.	The council consults parents/carers if relations to changes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	My question would be, why is this not currently in place? This suggests that early years and nurseries are over staffed at times due to the preferences of parents.	4. The council is already doing this.	There are currently pilots in place across 10 settings.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Provision for ELC should be the same across the council and Scotland. Some children should not be in nurseries for full days 5 days a week, yet others are offered only 2 days.	4. The council is already doing this.	A range of options/models are available for parents/carers in council settings.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	ELC staff are hardworking and should be supported	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The Council could do more to reach out to local child minding providers and support the local community and self employed child minders to provide an improved solution. This would ensure that employment levels can remain high and retain those who have young families an opportunity to take their child to a child minder whilst returning back to work. The learning and care environment is greatly more sufficient that private and education nurseries due to the ratios of children being smaller.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	surely we need to invest in early years as cutting it further will surely have an impact on the development of young ones which will then have a greater impact on them as they get older.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Keep nursery care	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	More nursery teachers need to be employed and more funding for activities , should not be making any savings where childcate is involved	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal is to bring supply and demand more closely into line, and not employ unnecessary staff.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Will this impact on the free learning spaces? Who will be prioritised for the service?	4. The council is already doing this.	Provision of statutory entitlement is prioritised.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Many nursery settings cannot accommodate the places parents want at the moment so whilst i'd support selling more hours, I cannot see how this would be viable in a lot of settings	4. The council is already doing this.	The provision will be introduced where possible whilst still meeting parents'/carers' statutory entitlement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	A review of the holiday opening should continue to be considered due to lack of uptake.	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposal seeks to match supply and demand more closely.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I am all for parental choice but at what cost? Early Learning and childcare provision is less cohesive when children are coming and going at different times each day and week.	4. The council is already doing this.	Early Learning and Childcare provision operates according to statutory guidance which requires flexibility and choice.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Make far most use of child minders and playgroups - not all children thrive in a huge and busy setting.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Childminders and playgroups which meet the national standard can provide ELC.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Better wrap around care opportunities have been lacking in West Lothian for years	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	If the country needs the more people in work, there needs to be more affordable childcare, not less. However money intended to support the less well off should be targeted away from those who can manage.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The aim is to increase affordable childcare.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Parental choice is a two edged sword. Some popular centres become swamped, whilst others dwindle, despite the opportunities that might exist to improve their quality. What say do staff have in their deployment?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council currently staffs establishments in line with demand and deploys staff accordingly.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Hours should be available for all children	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The statutory entitlement is available for all children, and additional hours available for a fee.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The decision to move to 50 weeks was not the choice of the parents in fact a mere 30% of the parents wanted this outcome. Move nurseries back to term time, your running building all year with as little as 10 children in it. Look to condense nursery buildings where child numbers are lower this will reduce costs of running building and staff as reduced capacity	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council is moving back to term time provision where requested by parents and allowed by capacity.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Please think of childminders in this process. My brilliant childminder recently had a child leave her provision as he was then able to buy extra hours from a council nursery. It needs to be worth childminders while to keep children on they've built up a relationship with.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Childminders which meet the national standard can offer hours, but the Council is committed to offering flexibility and choice.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The cost of the school day is on the increase and families are already struggling. To incur more costs for parents will only cause the poverty gap to worsen.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Parents already have to pay for childcare over 1140 hours. The Council is increasing flexibility and choice.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Staffing of this needs looked at carefully.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Staffing will be inline with national supervision ratios.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This is about child care; Parents need to take some responsibility for the caring of their child; ; Additional care requirements out with school hours should require a charge; ; Staffing level v attendance during holiday periods are a challenge	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Additional hours over the statutory entitlement will incur a charge.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I believe Early Learning centres have become childminding centres with a focus on childcare rather than learning- this is not down to the staff but a huge change in their role which they had no choice on.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The service is delivered in line with national statutory guidance.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	What about those who cannot afford to pitchase what they need?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council provides 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare to all parents/carers, but additional hours must be paid for.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Make much more use of playgroups and child-minders - not every child thrives in a setting with 20 or 30 children - in fact most don't.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Playgroups and childminders which meet the national standard can provide ELC.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think nurseries should be the same as school regarding hours and holidays, most are open all year round which must be costly between staffing, heating, electric and resources like food!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Some Prints require provision all year, but where parents request term time provision only, and capacity allows, the Council can consider moving back to this model.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Perhaps West Lothian council should seek to revert nursery hours and allow them to close over the Easter and Summer holidays as they previously did before changing the hours without much consultation with staff. Perhaps free nursery hours should be aligned to the school day to cut costs	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is introducing hours aligned to school hours where parents request this provision and capacity allows.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	My children were all happy in WLC nurseries, the staff were dedicated and nurturing,	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Having to purchase early learning and childcare will create a 2 tier system and affect those who need it most.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Additional childcare is already available for purchase from the private sector. The proposal increases flexibility and choice.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Our youngest children deserve a quality experience in early years education. I do not believe that the council can cut money spent in this area and still maintain a quality experience for our youngest children. Our children are now in early years for a much longer period of time. I would be extremely worried if the realigning of provisions and staffing meant an increase to the child / adult ratio within nursery. Our youngest need as much contact with adults as possible in these settings. They are often used as a necessity by working parents and our council must remember that these very young children need constant care and emotional support not from peers but from a caring adult. Continuing to cut in this area could result in many more children with mental health issues as they are not experiencing the bonding and care that young developing minds need at this time in their lives.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The Council will continue to meet national staffing ratios.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	3B Looks like a good candidate for a workers/customers Coop giving it the support and flexibility to make a successful social enterprise.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Social enterprise can offer provision, if it meets the national standard.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again, early learning and childcare do fantastic work and a good culture of wellbeing that benefits staff and children should be maintained.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I would put early learning very high up the priority list.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early learning is important t looking at correct resourcing a buildings.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early Learning Centres are NOT childcare and should not be referred to as such. There is no way high-quality learning experiences can be created for very young children for 10 hours every day and nor should there be. Properly trained educators (teachers and early years practitioners and officers) should be able to facilitate high-quality learning for 4-5 hours of the day and qualified child minders (who may also be early years practitioners or officers) run the rest of the day. Please don't pretend to any of your constituents that this is not the case. Parents and carers are entitled to childcare but children are entitled to education.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The service is delivered in line with national statutory guidance.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The additional hours in ELC's as they are open from 7.45-6.15 with does not meet the needs of most families! ELC's should be open mon - thur, term time only and 1 ELC per town open during school holidays as a hub which parents can pay for the service at a reduce rate to support working families.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Where parents request it and capacity allows, the council will provide ELC to match school term time. Statutory Guidance prevents the Council from offering paid hours at a cheaper rate than the private sector.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Resources are limited in nursery and they struggle daily with staffing.levels. ASN children are inclusive but the right training is not available.to practitioners so the children's needs are not being met.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. National supervision ratios are met and will continue to be met, and the proposal does not impact on ASN children.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	How where do people get the extra money from	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Additional hours are currently available for a charge from the private sector. The proposal increases flexibility and choice.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early years are vital to a child's start in life so therefore need to be consistent. Some only get the experiences offered in nurseries therefore it need to be staffed by the same people to ensure continuity and allow children to build up trust with the adults (trusted adults approach)	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Revert nursery provision back in line with school hours and term time please. Take up is low later in the day and during school holidays. Its far more convenient to arrange one pick up for siblings who attend nursery/school and wouldn't require staff to be paid over these extra hours. It's a very long day for young children.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Where parents request it and capacity allows the Council will offer a 9-3 service.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There should be places and suitable hours available for all children if wanted. This should be a priority so how are you actually proposing to make a saving of £2.3 million other than making parents pay extra for it? Parents should not have to be juggling different providers and hours for full coverage this may be why there is not full utilisation. Consult specifically with parents on what is needed here.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. The proposals are based on parental responses to surveys asking them to identify their priorities.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Outdoor learning has been proven to lead to improved resilience in young children. If nurseries all spent part of the day outside this might mean a need for less indoor space and thereby save funds as well as giving opportunities for outdoor exercise and exploration.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. All nurseries offer opportunities for outdoor learning.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nursery are vital for our pre school children and not all parents will not be in position e to afford to purchase additional hours then impacting attainment gap	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Additional hours are currently available for a charge from the private sector. The proposal increases flexibility and choice.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early learning is key and parents choice of council founded and private nurseries is essential.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I disagree in using nursery provision in the stead of playgroups and childminders. There is extensive research on the benefits of both for the under 3s.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Playgroups and childminders which meet the national standard can offer ELC.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	More term time 9 to 3	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Where parents request it and capacity allows the Council will offer a 9-3 service.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	So you will save 2.3 million by cutting services but deliver a service for parents/ carers to purchase at their expense I suspect additional hours. So you want to financially burden already burdened families with yet more costs in addition to council and income tax increases.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Parents who require childcare in excess of the free 1140 hours of early learning and childcare already have to purchase this at their own expense.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	What about adding additional support to these poor over worked Elc staff when there is so many additional support children coming in and no extra staffing to cover how much more help these little people need to get the best out of there time.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. National supervision ratios are met in all ELC establishments.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sometimes a local nursery is what enables parents to work and this should be facilitated whenever possible. Cutting services can only be detrimental for the children and usually those that are most disadvantaged.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Essential that the relevant trade unions are fully involved in the process.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Surely that would promote inequality in learning although it would be interesting to know the content delivered in these optional additional payed hours. High quality, free education should be available to all. I think it is wrong to offer extended hours for a cost.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Parents who require childcare in excess of the free 1140 hours of early learning and childcare already have to purchase this at their own expense.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Widen the ability of parents to allocate 'free childcare' funding to their chosen provider. If delivering an option to purchase additional hours, also allow selling of hours to parents for whom hours offered in council settings are not suitable.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Parents can receive their 1140 hours from any provider which meets the national standard. Parents who require childcare in excess of the free 1140 hours of early learning and childcare already have to be able to purchase this at their own expense from the provider of their choice.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Stop paying private groups and use existing facilities for them	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Scottish Government statutory guidance requires the council to purchase places from the private sector, even where high quality places exist in local Council provision.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Disagree, so much money is wasted in ELC. Go back to the old ways of mornings or afternoons, school hours only and not on during school holidays. This will save ALOT of money!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nurseries should not ruin outwith school hours or holidays. There is no difference between a P1 child and a nursery agree child. Realign these again and make the savings there	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	West Lothian schools currently offer a longer teaching week than schools in some other Council areas, and no direct cause and effect is discernible in outcomes.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Really confused.. how can you say " Support high quality service delivery " then say you are cutting funds and staff !	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Give it to private companies. Rich will get richer.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Will this mean reducing nursery hours?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The provision of 1140 hours of ELC is a statutory requirement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I see council run nursery as a joke as it sits today child lead play is awful, i removed my child from nursery as the staff leave children to do what they please, very little interaction.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	From experience my local nursery provided no education and we're in effect, expensive baby sitters. They should either educate the children or if not just be hired as baby sitters on reduced salaries.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Also charge parents for nappies, snacks, etc. just like private nurseries.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	As part of ELC expansion provision of snack/ milk and meal is free. Council settings do not provide nappies, parent provides (if needed).
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Just means privatisation of these services	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Statutory access to Early learning and Childcare would be maintained and prioritised in council settings
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Try removing taxpayer funded (because nothing is free) care from kids aged 2 who's parents are on benefits. There is no need for it and it's an unaffordable expense at a time when the lazy muppets can look after their own kids.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The framework for provision is set in statute by the Scottish Government.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There are too many childcare hours supplied. At some point parents have to take responsibility for the children that they chose to have.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Provision of 1140 hours is a statutory requirement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nursery has become childcare and not child centred but looking after families. Families who do not require the number of hours are using it for childcare.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Provision of 1140 hours is required by statute.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This should be redesigned. 2 year olds in nurseries are not ok. Why would you want to offer extra hours?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Provision for qualifying two year olds is a statutory requirement. Parents have responded to surveys stating they require additional hours.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Is the 1140 hrs really working already ? ; Kids not getting holidays as parents carers always send them to elc tells in their behaviour, emotions etc as we all need to re charge our batteries and have rest.; Term time worked fine years ago.; ; Family time is important kids being in nursery longer is eroding this.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. 1140 hours is a statutory entitlement.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Maybe we should look at countries where this is working such as Sweden. The new nursery hours don't seem to be working for small children at some nurseries where sleeping facilities are not available. An early years environment is not the right environment for 3 year olds who should be at home or a nursery with a home like environment.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. 1140 hours is a statutory entitlement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Keep the work in house and do not outsource	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. The Council is required by statute to pay the private sector for early learning and childcare places, where private nurseries meet the national standard.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Stop giving free child care to those who can afford to pay for it. Reduce the ELC hours provided for free in line with school hours and those who want more should pay for it. There are many families who are both working full time who can afford to pay for this. We should not be providing free child care for all. Also look into the opening of ELC during the school holidays. These hours are not used well and nurseries are running with a few children, huge staffing costs wasted and wasted energy bills.;	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Universal provision is required by legislation.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I do not believe that nursery places should be free for all, I believe that these should also be means tested. Wealthy families should not be able to use council services for free childcare.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Universal provision of 1140 hours is a statutory entitlement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Move Early Years start back to 3yrs old instead of 2yrs.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Provision for qualifying two year olds is a statutory requirement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Parents need to look after their own kids. Whilst there is a need for nursery places I feel the kids are in these institutions for far too many hours. Allowing more flexible hybrid home working would allow many parents to work effectively and look after their own kids.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. 1140 hours is a statutory entitlement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I disagree with the SG current drive for expansion of ELC and the inclusion of 2 year old. We cannot cater for everyone and again children deemed at risk should be prioritised.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. The service is delivered in line with national statutory guidance.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I don't think nursery provision is needed.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Early Learning and Childcare is a statutory obligation.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early years workers should have a higher pay.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	STOP UNFUNDING EDUCATION. Increase staffing and funding!!	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand, not cut standards. The proposal is designed as a budget saving. As set out in the consultation, the Council must decrease expenditure, rather than increase staffing and funding.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early learning is not a babysitting service. Those sitting at home while their children are in full day nursery placements should be contributing somewhere.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Universal provision of 1140 hours is a statutory requirement.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As long as low-income families and vulnerable children can access easily and very regularly.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. The service is designed to complement paid for hours offered by the private sector, rather than as additional support for the vulnerable and low income families.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Parents must not be charged for additional hours	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. The Council will provide 1140 hours free, but charge for additional hours.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Ditch the increased hours and wrap around care.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The Council is committed to providing increased flexibility and choice and is responding to parental demand expressed in surveys.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	i think parents should get the choice of nursery and a review of catchment areas should be completed	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Parents/carers are offered extensive flexibility and choice. There are no current plans to introduce formal catchment areas.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Support more Forest Schools - potentially less indoor resource required, minimising overheads?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nursery education currently needs reconsidered. Recent changes allow for a more child-led experience but when children come into Primary 1 they already face massive gaps within the Early Level curriculum.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The proposal will not affect delivery of the 3-18 curriculum.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	this is a very undervalued area...low pay and high expectations of staff needs looking into urgently	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	ELC children seem to be better looked after financially than school children, I know the ratio is higher for young children but school children need help too.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Scottish Government Policy
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Early Learning and Childcare could, potentially, be about to enter a period of significant change if the proposal to change school starting age to 7 goes ahead. Any savings here would need to allow services to be ready to accommodate any policy change.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Funding needs to stop been pulled on elc places for 2 year olds in facilities such as Broxburn a fantastic playgroup for all that ended up being privatised!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The playgroup did not apply to be a partner provider despite attending the information session. Council officers have been liaising with the group on how to make an application when the tender re-opens in 2023.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Each nursery should be reassessed on what is currently provided regarding opening times throughout the year. The parents were consulted over 4 years ago to gather what they wanted at that specific time. This arrangement is currently still in place and no consultation has been made to gain current opinions.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council carries out an annual survey of users. Ongoing review of the ELC framework is ongoing.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Our biggest issue is lack of parenting skills. Unfortunately ELC is now the only service raising children for some families.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	if numbers dictate, 1 nurser open for all , during school holidays.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As we are experiencing children starting school more de-skilled than in previous years - particularly with poorer speech and language, so cost savings with regards to staffing is a huge concern. In recent years we have seen a removal of nursery teachers to cut costs, yet children are still expected to meet milestones at the end of p1. Or re-address expectations in for p1 children. To ensure high quality provision in early learning services, retaining staff to build on knowlege and experience is required. Yet early years practioners are very poorly paid. This does not reflect the importance of the role.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	If that's the case then support community playgroups rather than change processes for suppliers of funded places WITHOUT telling them. Craigshill's Daisy Drop in Playgroup is shutting because they relied on their funded 2yrs places. Lochside Playgroup lost their supplier status because they were not informed either but luckily have parents that can pay to use the service until they can register as a supplier again in January. School nurseries can't cope with Early 2's places as they are full of 3-5yr olds. Support playgroups rather than consider paying over the odds for funded places at private nurseries!! Also by making rent in WLC community centres FREE for playgroups. They are regulated by Care Inspectorate, follow Early Years Curriculum and employ qualified childcare professionals. They are also not-for-profit charities. Support them and save money!!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Organisations which meet the required quality and service standards can provide funded places.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I do not agree that, preschool, nursery, after school services etc should be undertaken in partnership centres.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Also does this mean there will be additional job available within school nurseries if there is increased demand for additional hours?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Any service redesign would require a workforce plan to support the implementation
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Sorry again we have do not have much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events,	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Save 2.3 million maybe use this to put childcare in all areas. Where I live there is none for 5+ year olds and we are expected by the government to work, impossible when single parent especially when school Fridays are half days. My career is carer/care assistant how can I work if I can't get childcare for the hour of the job. We are limited to 9-2:30, how many jobs have these hours? Use it to provide childcare?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Local authorities have no statutory requirements to provide out of school care.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The more I read the more I'd like to know where you do plan to spend money and support people as so far it's looking pretty grim yet my council tax is the highest it's ever been. Perhaps devolved community councils would be better than this?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	If a child is in an early years facility from 8am to 6pm then parent collects takes child home bath supper bed. May i ask when does that child see there parent saturdays sundays only. This is not a balanced family situation. Work life balance is now being eradicated. West lothian really....do we want this? Families not spending time together?!? I was blessed to grow up in the 80s raised by a stay at home mum with not the level if benefits handed out nowadays. Sorry if this seems judgemental but this is the obsercation. There should be more family events. More groups in centres to join.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Nursery is no longer what it used to be. It has become a council run, council funded private nursery. Children need short spells to interact with their peers, not longer days than most working adults.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I don't agree with the Scottish gvt's policy of free childcare from such an early age anyway. If parents want to give up their parental duties and stick their beloved children in childcare for longer and longer hours then charge them as much as you want - the majority of them obviously don't want to take on the responsibility of looking after their children anyway.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I think childcare provision is now more than adequate than it's ever been. You are actually borderline seeing the child more than the parents, they will pick them up, feed them then they will be bath and off to bed. Where will there be time for their family time.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The ELC nursery provision is shameful. This has turned into a babysitting service with little education being developed. There is a high level of staff to children at particular times of day e.g 5pm 5 staff to 6 children. This is not cost effective.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Agree as long as support there for people on low incomes	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is not allowed to compete on unfair terms with the private sector, for example by providing concessions not provided by the private sector.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The Scottish government blanket increase in hours was never thought through or properly funded of cuts are now being made.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I hope you do realise that the more you increase financial pressure on families who sacrifice and work hard to maintain a standard of living to support those who abuse the social system the more likely you are to force them to give up work and join the social funding train as I am seeing more and more people claiming benefits having a better quality of life than those that work hard to provide that for them. I currently earn a comfortable living but I sacrifice up to or more than six months per year away from my family to provide this working offshore around the world but each time I come home I am under increasing pressure every year due to increases in council tax, income tax, energy bills and cuts in services and community standards wether that be roads or waste managements services it constantly makes me question why I work so hard when others are home in their own beds every night and receiving benefits that I am contributing towards. There is only so much a working man will accept before he quits.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Unclear on this statement- more detail required	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Can't comment here as the detail of how his is to be done.....isn't written above?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Ah, re-align. Clear.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to where savings are being made.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	'Fully utilised . . .high quality service delivery. . .realign provision . . .' more nonsense speak. If you can't simply explain what you mean, don't bother. Taking money away from early learning and childcare. Genius! Sure that's a vote winner.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not enough detail to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	dont really know what this mean	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not really sure how this saves money	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Support not provided in the community - Jumping Jacks went because support was taken away from the Council. People need support with childcare and more early learning is needed especially in Armadale.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Organisations which meet the required quality and service standards can provide funded places.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	See my answer to 1A. It is disingenuous to ask people to comment on such a broad proposal with far too little detail for anyone to give an opinion on - it constitutes tick box consultation. It is difficult to argue with the broad principle outlined but it very much depends on how it impacts on people - reducing staff can often mean that the only method of communication is online and in many organisations this causes much greater inefficiency/no help at all for the customer/client. Very difficult to believe that you can achieve your aim whilst saving that amount of money...infact not at all believable!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	I don't understand the question. How is the service being changed and what are the pros and cons? What does realign actually mean in this context.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	How is this considered a saving?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Not explained enough to comment, are you changing nursery hours again?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	There is no information on how you are actually making this large saving so I can only assume provision will be worse. As before this is just full of words used to make it sound like it's not cuts. You can't just say 'high quality service delivery' without evidence that it will be.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand and offer a new expanded service.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	Another ambiguous statement masking a £2.3 million cut?!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	This should have been sent to the parents of all pre- school and present pupils, as I said earlier this whole survey should have been sent to every household in West Lothian, instead of being done in this underhand manner. If a neighbour hadn't found out about this by accident I would have been ignorant of the Council plans. As for the Connect Magazine I don't know when one was delivered to my house.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3B Redesign of Early Learning and Childcare	It is not clear how this (significant) saving is being made, are we saying that services that are not "fully utilised" would be cut completely? That would entirely depend on the reasons why the services were not fully utilised and the impact on those for whom services would be withdrawn. If a mild inconvenience, fine. If a major destabilising disruption then no. Without the criteria being explicit and examples, and not understanding the importance of any withdrawn services to families might be, it is hard to support this saving.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is to bring supply into line with demand.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	To me this is being more smart and connecting young people with opportunities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Seems reasonable as long as people who are not eligible for these programmes but who may fall through the net still have options	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Any service that gives young people a chance in life should be protected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The MCMC service aims to maximise the number of young people progressing to positive destinations, maximising their chances.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth Services to have a purpose - progression towards a positive destination	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Could be a good thing but there are areas with very little youth engagement, meaning that young people are turning to their own methods to entertain themselves, which can affect the community that they're in, if what they are doing is a negative thing, due to being bored.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	As long as services are available to all young people	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Streamlining this makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree with focus on MCMC. Again more detail is required to support any change.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This saving must ensure it is not allowing the youth to fall between the gaps. I have 2 teenagers and pathway to work was lost during covid, this service should support mental health in our youths.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Only one option to make an impact. This has been around for a long time, does it really work?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There is a desperate need for more activities to engage secondary aged children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There is a desperate need for more activities to engage secondary aged children. Broxburn seems to suffer a lot with ASB, primarily from disengaged and bored young people. Yet when the community tries to set something up, they are met with red tape from thr Council. Make up your mind, either you do it or let communities do it. Don't let it fall in thr cracks at the coat of the next generation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I think this is a good service often kids leave school with no direction in mind. Some often need a bit of handholding to set them on the right path.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	expansion of apprenticeships schemes to be used where possible also and multi-agency work for youth services is essential	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	These types of services make a huge impact to our young people as they help to engage them and ensure their wellbeing needs and motivation is met. Agree heavily with their being more services for youth people as it keeps them busy outside from sometimes really difficult situations at home such as ill parents, poverty, abuse ect	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	An education setting is not the best for everyone, so if a child is still accessing learning through another means we should encourage it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Prioritising MCMC seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Amazing stuff, doing well	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree - this area has been able to avoid modernisation and change for many years. There needs to be an acknowledgement that the support for youth services has changed from the 1980s	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Fantastic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Yes, improve relationships between schools and outside agency help.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	A good area to review as we owe it to our young people to maximise their opportunities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	These schemes are a total waste of time	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Great idea. Giving choice and options is always the best way for a great outcome.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Ok.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Possible savings here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Very successful initiative, running for quite some time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in, but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agreed. But the service needs to be regularly evaluated to ensure value for money. I'm not clear why NEETs young people are the responsibility of the Council, or how much money is currently being spent in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Worthy of a review of impact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	good but again this does not show you what you are cutting to save the £500k	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This should already be happening as well as on going!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	As long as MCMC is well funded and there are sufficient competent and reliable workers then this will work well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is very close to my heart and I would never like MCMC to change, they do an amazing job to the kids and community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sounds like great opportunities for those who need it most.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Definitely. Early education settings is an opportunity to embed this and council /community facilities could be used out of normal hours to offer courses to young people to learn a skill that will help them find gainful employment and keep them from falling to the way side or in with the work crowd or making the wrong choices.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This too, makes logical sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC should continue to help the youth in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This sounds a good aim. I can't comment on directly but how many will lose out as presumably other initiatives that will be cancelled?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Very important for people to know where they go next so schemes like this should be supported.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is a good move as I feel young people need all the help they can get due to the increase of mental health issues in younger people today.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Supporting youths is essential and hopefully this re structure will help.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I support the council helping vulnerable young people to get a job or to undertake training.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Why not already. Youth are the Future including West Lothian; Very short sighted	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	If MCMC is already making a significant impact then it is important such services remain in operation to support the cause. However, if the same can be delivered via other means, such as in association and support from other initiatives and effort that provides such savings, then it would be great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is a fair proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	GOOD TEAM FROM MY KNOWLEDGE OF THEM	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This would help youths reach realistic goals and find their potential in society	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More close working together seems ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Excellent, this cost saving of £500,000is much needed, please proceed with these changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I absolutely love this and applaud those involved this will make a huge difference to young people and their future.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This seems to be a good thing, especially if MCMC actually works.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Seems reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This should continue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sounds like a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree - focus should be on education and skills development getting young people who are disengaged and sidelined from society back to being active positive members of their community and empowering them to reintegrate into education and training.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We need less youth workers. There are plenty of volunteer groups such as local sports clubs in our communities that would be only too happy to work closer with schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	These are important and have a knock on effect in crime when neglected	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sounds like a good proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Yes!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	i can not see where the saving can be made but the task/service at the end of the day does not seem to change. so ok.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I agree with this and have first hand experience of the good work that the MCMC team do with pupils in school and young people when they have left school, and feel that supporting them to work in partnership with other youth services can only be a good thing for young people and the workforce in years to come	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment,
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth clubs and services for youths should not be cut. We have loads of anti-social behaviour in the area and there is already not enough for youths to do so cutting it even more will be a big worry. Need more, not cuts to this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Fully support this....supporting closer links between schools etc. Reaching young people early to break habits & attitudes that take them down difficult paths has to be a priority.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Again this should be promoted. I had no idea this was even a thing - granted my children are in full time education but I know many that are not. Education in many forms should be promoted whether that be in a school setting or going back to apprenticeships etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree that this is required and would love for my own service to work more closely again.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service re-structure of Youth Services	There are far too many youth clubs. Youth clubs should only run once per week. Any youth clubs that has less than ten should be cancelled if this happens over a six weeks period	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	How much will this cost?; Yes agree as never heard of this service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I wasn't aware of MCMC. Close coordination between schools and 'community learning partners' seems like a sound approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Don't know enough to comment but it seems a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This seems like an outdated model. It will impact on some but given the priorities (and need to focus on statutory requirements) the council has to do this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Don't see any impact here so assume there won't be any loss and so sounds like a good idea on that basis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It's unclear what programmes/services will be cut to provide the estimated saving but it does make sense to focus on the programmes that are working best and strong connection with schools and community learning partners seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Sounds good, but what about the young people not in school?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. MCMC works with school pupils. Other approaches exist to address non-attendance.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The Council should invest in services that have the greatest impact and remove funding for those which are not working. Looking for cooperative initiatives with partners should be investigated to provide quality services in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Education is not always a thriving environment for a young person, I think this sounds promising.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This service is vital for ensuring positive destinations for all	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Fully support savings in this area and would support further reprioritisation to increase the saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good idea. Is a greter aving possible?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Also a good sounding proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Teenagers are either going to engage with education, find a job or not.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Definitely an area for improvement.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Important to be able to reach all	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Makes sense to align the spend where there's the biggest impact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Yea, sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is a good move as, again, other council services could be doing more to support the delivery of outcomes but we have managers that are too blinkered and only look within their own service for solutions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	These are few facilities for youngsters MCMC should help,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC seems a useful scheme for marginalised teens.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good, although keep a holistic approach and don't create tunnel vision on one initiative just because it produces the greatest impact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	A definite review of Youth Services is needed not enough support or places to go not enough communication or not what is available in terms of support, mental health etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The Council provides support for mental health through counselling in schools and the Education Psychology service.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth services is very important to the community and the way young people are supported and grow up; we need to be careful not to cut too many services to Youth services and support this great work as much as possible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I don't agree McMc makes the biggest impact	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Would investment in younger children not produce a similar impact more naturally over time?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	You need to provide services in decile 1+2 areas for young people just hanging onto education/employment etc. It can be too late to just react. Early intervention is needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	You're reducing teaching hours, is this filling the gap?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The two proposals are unrelated.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth clubs are needed and should be more social clubs rather than educational. Kids need a safe place to go in evenings with friends that's not educational	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Please protect our youth clubs and children's clubs in our centres. our young people have the right to a local provision equally and fairly across the county. Young people need this....a safe space to be protected somewhere to go to....or they will be pushed onto the street and due to the fact nothing gets done about crime on our streets...the Council would be pushing them in to hanging on streets where there are dangers. This is a very bad idea. On the local authorities head if the decision has to go down this route of less clubs at 1.00 which we can afford to pay in out family off 5.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This youth service needs protected as our children need somewhere to go with friends and get them socialising and bring back discos 2.00 entry fee like we used to have and bring in local musicians to help. Let's get West Lothian on the map for dance and exercise when dancing and music is good for the sole and mental health. Even Family disco time small fee is acceptable here but must be staffed by council. Some committees can not be trusted. Pvg needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Young peoples services are vitally important. If young people have nowhere to go and nothing to engage with that's free to access then there is more likelihood of more vandalism and anti-social behaviour.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Investment and not cuts should be funnelled into this area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Get the parents involved, lobby changed to laws. You are aiming at the wrong target here	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is identified as the greatest impact project, so cutting 0.5m seems like a poor choice. Why not other lower impact programmes?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The problem is engaging with those young people as they tend to have less opportunities that maybe some other youths in the area	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is simply not true. Our local kids club and youth club are value for money at 1.00 entry cost. Our kids are entitled to meet up once a week nine a youth club setting this should be a basic right. Let's get it right for all our communities. I propose no cut to youth services. We need clubs so kids get out bedrooms offline and socialise. If anything we need more openings not less or a cut here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More opportunities not less should be available to young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	How do we ensure that this doesn't result in increased anti social behaviour?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More money should be spent on young people. There is nothing for teenagers to do, not enough jobs for people, nor housing. Services are bursting atthe seams	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The impact that youth workers in youth clubs and other groups in the community and also within youth work in schools provide is invaluable. It is not just the services provided by MCMC that makes a difference, but the ongoing support and learning opportunities provided by youth workers in youth clubs and other groups. MCMC makes a huge difference especially with the 1-1 keyworker support but this support ends after a number of weeks/months on the project. Young people who attend youth clubs, however will potentially engage for a number of years and build up the skills and learning over time, therefore allowing them to become responsible citizens due to the role models, ie youth workers they have been around over a period of time. It takes various learning opportunities with young people over a long period of time to create the positive individuals we hope to see in our society. Youth services should not be reduced down to one service - it needs different services working collaboratively to build our young people to be the best they can be within our communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I think we need to be careful that services are not reduced or removed to the point that there is significant disruption to services provided. In other local authorities, the removal/reduction of services has removed youth clubs and groups provided to young people to the point that there is a significant increase in youth related anti-social behaviour. This then in turn needs more input from the police and other emergency services to deal with the backlash that comes from having little or no services provided in the preventative work that helps build positive relationships with young people so that they are active, positive citizens within society. A prime example of this is what is happening in England, London in particular, where services for young people have been cut so drastically that there has been an exponential increase in youth related anti-social behaviour and gangs. Overall, this way of working not only creates chaos but also costs more money in the long run.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This sounds like the provision will be left to schools; which makes no sense of the young people are not making progress in school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More savings which impact children!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Is this not disenfranchising the majority of young people that do not require MCMC support?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I don't know what services would end under this proposal, but what would the knock on impact be on other services such as health (especially mental health), crime etc?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There is a direct correlation between the provision of youth services and the petty crime rates. Reduce this service and the long term impact will be an increase in juvenile crime, detention, and long term crime as the youths grow to adulthood and crime escalates.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This appears to be another social work function being pushed to schools, which is a very bad idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The Labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC is terrible they took my son on and then dropped him months and months later. He is unemployed. Have had to find stuff myself so I don't know why they are around I was promised support and promised the world but 0 star service review from me. Please see my complaint about this as I am still so unhappy:	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth services are so important more than ever now in West Lothian as suicide rates are on the high and the youth of West Lothian need things to focus on and structure to prevent this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I know a 29 year old never worked a day since leaving secondary school so 13 years they haven't paid tax or contributed to NI pension schemes training or anything this person slipped through the net. Work is good for people. This individual's mental health has deteriorated as not invested in. Why are they getting a benefit they should be trained and working. I think council should have mass company like BMC for West Lothian and make work for hands to do. Do not cut youth clubs and children's clubs as our kids need somewhere to go a safe place to meet friends and get out of the house off computer well done keeping clubs a 1.00. This helps kids socialising helps mixing and meeting new people helps physical mental health. I hope this stays as I have a big family and 1.00 is affordable. Thanks youth services for clubs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Once again, the most vulnerable young people will be most affected!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	After the pandemic there are more children than ever struggling with education in the standard setting. I would approach cuts in this area with caution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There needs to be more youth service opportunities to aid in further development beyond primary school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will review the provision of youth services.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Wow! What youth services? Our youths have been woefully neglected for years! There are more children out of education than ever before due to presumption of mainstreaming and the lasting impacts of government decisions during COVID. As a parent of one of these children, I see absolutely nothing being done to change this unless the young person is causing risk to others.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	If you want to work more closely with schools then it would be a very good idea NOT to reduce the school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	How can you save money when it's clear young people require more support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Vital work. Please do not cut back here. People in poor communities do not have any other support and will end up more likely to turn to crime. Training gives self respect and some opportunity. There are some good kids that just need a chance to make something of themselves with someone to believe in them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth Services is a bit lacking at present in my opinion	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The CLD youth services service helped my child join in and gain friendships and increased his confidence and I am thankful we have this great service. Without this we would have a child not mixing and not going anywhere without his mum and dad etc. He has a good relationship with staff who are dedicated fun funny serious when need to be and always have my child's welfare at heart. I believe this service should not be cut and children's or youth clubs locally should continue as a public service our world relies on them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We must invest in services in the young to give them better choices, I am not in favour of any reductions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	As long as these services are not cut as they provide a vital link for young adults leaving school and integrating into the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There are minimal youth services around. Ones that are around require more funding and support	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Do not get rid of Youth Action Project	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More youth services are required to support young people. Some of the issues we are facing now with in active youths & lack of education is down to the removal of services from 2010 - present.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It's a lifestyle choice that many make and difficult to break if it's what has been modelled.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Mainstream youth work provides vital safe places for young people to meet , be supported, listened to and helped to be their best. This should not be sacrificed to focus only on MCMC. Lack of mainstream youth and Childrens work encourages anti social behaviour and limits social interaction especially in small communities who seem to be at risk of loosing the limited facilities and provision they currently have. Already Childrens clubs have seen provision for P1&P2 age children removed. This is discrimination and defeats the purpose of ploughing money into early years to then remove it when they start school. These clubs were the only affordable social interaction for many families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Again in the big picture is this saving real worth the risk of some of our most vulnerable children losing out on support?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This will not be able to be reduced if the supports inside schools are saueezed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Putting more pressure on schools to support Youth Services while proposing cutting school staffing and budget does not make sense.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We need more help with this not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth services are important to keep young people occupied as there will be more issues in communities if they are reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC is vastly underfunded at the moment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It is important that there is a positive destination for every child leaving school so we must be careful not to reduce funding to the detriment of this service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Do not support, paltry saving and youth services are vital with huge unquantified benefits to society	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Appreciate that this is the area of is greatest impact but youth services delivery services to young people who are the most vulnerable in our community and get young people off the streets and engaged in meaningful activities. This is just as essential for those young people whose parents or careers are unlikely to engage is this type of activity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	this is a much needed resource	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I dont think funding should be reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Don't see much point in that	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I despair!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Very depressing and this will bring more trouble with YP in the future, mark my words!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Always investment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Pls don't put the club of it makes are days better we get to gave fun with are friends and make friends if you cancel it. I will go out and just walk about and i can get kidnapped do you eqnt md to get kidnapped	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We need more affordable places teenagers to go to instead of roaming the streets causing trouble	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth work is a vital, preventative resource for young people that provides relationship-based intervention and can often stop young people requiring more intensive, crisis intervention at a later stage. It is essential for instilling confidence and developing skills in our young people and provides a form of 'trusted adult' support that is well evidenced. We should be investing in these services rather than reducing funding allocation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is an important service, which are essential to keeping young people out of unemployment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	if this service was reduced or taken away this would affect young people negatively	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	if it was taken away it would impact on young people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	If this service was reduced, it would have a huge impact on young people progressing on to positive destinations. The help given supports young people with barrier removal helping them to sustain longer outcomes	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Presumption of mainstream and a lack of alternative educational options means that, unless these children are causing trouble in the community there is nothing for them. Not a thing!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I think this is an area which is greatly lacking. Many children are out of education due to anxiety after covid.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We need to invest in them not take things away	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	A reduction in these services over the years has seen an increase in the number of youth and young adults being involved in low level crime, drugs and alcohol and increase levels on unemployment or being unemployable. Providing support to those who miss out on opportunities after the intervention is missed is not the solution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There is not much for the youths to do these days which can lead to unfortunatly antisocial behaviour.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There used to be activities on Friday's after school for youths to take part in sport at the sports centres and it was engaging with the local youths and building a repour with them this also helped with their mental wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Not a good idea. More work needs to be putting into our youth especially with ASB rising - we need to put money into early intervention and stop throwing money at projects that only look at crisis (when its too late and the damage is done).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Do not do this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Important to retain these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We should be doing more than we are doing now not less in the future. Talking to friends about this due to trouble in the area and they say the same, there is not a lot for the young ones to do so we need to do more not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	there should be services opened up to more young people. due to the rising number in employment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	there should be more services for more young people not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youths definitely need a help in the right direction, I do as previously stated think that access to buildings, safe places would be advantageous to youths, not specifically a youth group, but a place to go, sit chat, relax with friends. With no pressure to do/learn anything specifically. youths drinking in the streets, up to no good, or just feeling generally unsafe unless in crowds are becoming more and more as they have nowhere to be going unless parents pay a lot on clubs/activities for them to do or they are roaming around in groups because no one wants groups of youths in there house.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Investment in Youth Services is very important as it can provide a vital link between young people and can help shape their way forward and give them support.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No the youth need more funding. They have nothing to do no facilities unless parents pay.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More problems in the future, poor kids	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	What youth services, anti social behaviour through roof cos kids have no where to go	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment on existing services.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is not an area to make cut backs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comments.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Again more problems later on in life	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Again it is fair to acknowledge that the council must make savings but it is worrying to see that areas such as youth services, generally coisidered to be inadequate, are to be cut further. Again this may prove counter-productive in the long run	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is such a successful team i dont think reducing funding is the correct option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth services are seriously lacking in West Lothian. There are provisions for children who are known to services, but there is nothing for your run of the mill kids who have no additional needs or interventions	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your observation on existing services.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Is there anything for youngsters to do? Seems that lack of facilities is why there is an increase in vandalism etc. Get them involved to see what they want. It probably could be done with minimal cost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More youth clubs and free activities for teens.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It's kinda already pared to the bone....; Can't cut much more ...or they may be negative impact on the kids	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC is a great resource but again- is expensive. West Lothian as a whole have next to no youth services available unless more affluent and modern towns such as Belsquarry and other Livingston towns. Kids in the surrounding towns don't even have an accessible library in some places and are not even allowed access to the ones they do have. Lack of sports clubs/youth clubs/youth trips etc has cause mass influx of antisocial behaviour!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth and teenagers need interests and activities. Encourage that.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	As before all additional services for young people are already stretched so money should not be removed if it means that this will lead to reductions of vulnerable young people who access these. ; MCMC does a really good job but can only work with a limited number of young people at a particular stage - would further improvements here be at the expense of services accessed by a greater number of young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We need the external services we currently have to help support our pupils, cutting these would be detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Children paying for cuts again.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Not convince - not seen much evidence of positive outcome for large percentage of youths but do see a severe lack of youth clubs or facilities for our 12-16 year olds to dissuade them from unhealthy activities like anti-social drinking and leaving debris behind them - thus causing more impact on the environment and WLC bin services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	dont agree with this, more needs to be done to prevent intervention so youth stuff should not be pulled.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Schools need to be the starting point to try to tackle this problem but with your proposal to reduce school hours it just makes no sense.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is a bad idea. ; ; MCMC provides positive rest for some of our most vulnerable young people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The youth sector is the most neglected and has been for some time - Secondary Schools facilities should be used more at nights and weekends as places for the young to engage in sports, expressive arts and technologies etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Review usually means reduction. This is a service which should be increased not reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The purpose of the consultation is to identify budget reductions rather than service expansion. Unfortunately resources are not available to support this.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Young people have had a horrendous time and they need all the help they can get, these changes should be a last resort	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	A lot of young people rely on that help and if that help is taken away, their will be more people not working and maybe just getting themselves into trouble and struggling for the rest of their lives.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I don't get how reducing funding will lead to a better outcome?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There needs to be mode youth work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The purpose of the consultation is to identify budget reductions rather than service expansion. Unfortunately resources are not available to support this.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There is already a woeful lack of youth services for those who are not at the most extreme end of the spectrum of need. Reducing this further is not equitable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More locally based youth services run as social enterprises by and for young people with some adult facilitation. Far more services, activities and attractions for young people in every locality.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The purpose of the consultation is to identify budget reductions rather than service expansion. Unfortunately resources are not available to support this.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Recent surveys locally and nationally pre and post COVID 19 pandemic shows that young people will increasingly require access to range of opportunities and supports to progress in learning, life and work and that the focus should not be on employability only. The Work with Young People (WwYP) team within Youth Services plays a vital role in delivering national and local priorities and outcomes. The WwYP team addresses inequality, social isolation, anti-social behaviour, and offers free and affordable access to a wide range of learning and skills development activities proven to improve engagement in learning, attainment, positive destinations and life skills through, e.g., group work in schools, summer holiday programmes, community-based youth clubs, focused work on mental health and wellbeing, sexual health and relationships, youth engagement in local/national decision making, girls' work, LGBT youth work, employability programmes, awards and accreditation, Duke of Edinburgh's Award and focused work with young people with additional support needs. The skillset within the WwYP team supports local community capacity and wealth building through partnership working, knowledge, professional practice, skills share and training and development of individuals, community groups and third sector organisations. Reducing the resource within the WwYP team will negatively impact the "other initiatives and work supported through closer working between schools and community learning partners" which is the breadth and depth of the work undertaken by the WwYP team, in particular the professionally qualified Community Learning and Development practitioners.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	3C Oppose taking saving from youth service .. propose that the savings be invested in youth services for senior secondary pupils at a crucial stage in their development. Recently faced with a plea from senior pupils for a youth club that wasn't called a youth club ie a cool club. Nothing provided by private sector for this age range.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Supporting young people to a positive destination is a great focus but other aspects should continue to be offered .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Greater need for young people not engaging with services, increase street work for young people, youth work provision needs to be increased and not decreased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. The purpose of the consultation is to identify budget reductions rather than service expansion. Unfortunately resources are not available to support this.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	A reduction in funding within Youth Services would be nothing short of catastrophic. Evidence highlights that navigating out of covid, young people's mental health and wellbeing is severely affected and targeted youth work can support young people. Reducing funding would mean a reduction in most community-based youth work provisions which targets SIMD areas and ensure children and young people have safe space to go.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Again, the WLC solution is to target the youngest and those who have a limited electoral voice. Disgraceful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	balance that MCMC may not work for every kid and other avenues should still be kept open.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Another cut in services for children!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Worthwhile service if it can be saved it would be great	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	If reading correctly this would remove all youth service provision and focus all resources on MCMC work. Therefore, would assume that the Third Sector would be expected to absorb the more general youth work aspect which would require additional funding.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Surely Youth Services is not only about young people not in education, employment or training but also about being proactive and working with young people in a safe and secure setting i.e. youth clubs. I'd ask how MCMC programme would help in this respect as it is my understanding that the MCMC team are only a few people working under huge pressures already so how could they do more? Our young people need supported and funded youth clubs in order to assist in becoming confident contributors to their communities. This service area budget has been significantly reduced over recent years therefore I couldn't support further reductions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More community clubs are needed particularly in the areas of deprivation to support communities and the young people within thwem	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Currently doesn't work the youths in general cause anti social problems graffiti setting fires vandalism mist evenings and weekends in Broxburn. It is fuelled by alcohol and drugs we are talking about as young as 11-12. Need better monitoring of shops selling to people buying alcohol for them they wait in groups on the main road for this to happen. More input needed on this as the police do nothing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Armadale is awful at the moment with ASB so this is not a good idea. More that stuff is taken away from kids the more trouble they are going to get into and do. Even the good ones they are going to do stuff bad.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I find this difficult to read as CLD Youth Services have many facets.; Do then public actually know what is proposed to go.... I don't think they know the actual facts; So the cut would mean NO services ..2....; Mental health programme; HYPE Prog; Youth participation have your say learning about democracy; Support to msyps to represent west lothian ; D of E; Career ready 2 yearly placements ; Volunteer placements and a chance for work experience. ; Employment for local people in for of a children's worker or youth worker ; Schools youth work; Encourage children and yp to self actualize and not.live a basic life ...personal development. ; No knives better lives ; Support and are.part off management committees; SUPPORT Com re gen meetings.; The right to play belong in a community have a local service to go to build friendships enter competitions develop.; Health respect ; Promote healthy relationships c card points safe sex messages and support points.; Girls.groups ; After hours Support; Fabb club staffing and support ; Motiv8 and comic provision and support.; Digital youthnwork.; Competitions; German youth exchange experiences ; ASN Support clubs groups experiences; Glitter cannons.; Lgbti work ; Pride; Pda in youth work gain a qualification; Core training for staff and volunteers.; Project work.; Holiday get into summer.progs; Easter programmes; Diversify yp from difficult choices.; Employment.; Art projects ; Supporting people.through difficult times.; Conduit to signpost people to other services.; Use buildings providing footfall.; Support to families.; Taking the above again in my view WLC are in breach of UNCRC.; Support Education Employment.; No national youth work outcomes met.; No health and well being indicators met.; No uncr rights met.; ; Is this actually real!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I do not believe youth services should have any reductions in funds. It has already been cut to the bear minimum half of youth clubs across West lothian were shut in the last savings and the very little that is left are over worked and over stretched. Too many kids not enough Staff or clubs!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I do not believe youth services should have any reductions in funds. It has already been cut to the bear minimum half of youth clubs across West lothian were shut in the last savings and the very little that is left are over worked and over stretched. Too many kids not enough Staff or clubs! The same goes for school's no cuts should be made to staffing here and more funds should be provided. Again, not enough staff and too many kids. Teachers and youth services are already heavily under funded. It would be an absolute joke to cut from here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The comments are not relevant to the specific issue of digital transformation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I do not believe youth services should have any reductions in funds. It has already been cut to the bare minimum half of youth clubs across West Lothian were shut in the last savings and the very little that is left are over worked and over stretched. Too many kids not enough Staff or clubs! The same goes for school's no cuts should be made to staffing here and more funds should be provided. Again, not enough staff and too many kids. Teachers and youth services are already heavily under funded. It would be an absolute joke to cut from here. How about looking further into the structure of road management services. Council workers for road digs, traffic management, pot holes bad road resurfacing. It would seem there is an over staffed issue here. Many times I have seen and it is widely seen by others. 5 men on the job but only 2 working. This is actually a laughing point by many. West Lothian Council can't staff there schools but can pay street services to sit and watch the show.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Savings affecting other areas of the Council are also included in the consultation.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I do not believe youth services should have any reductions in funds. It has already been cut to the bare minimum half of youth clubs across West Lothian were shut in the last savings and the very little that is left are over worked and over stretched. Too many kids not enough Staff or clubs! The same goes for school's no cuts should be made to staffing here and more funds should be provided. Again, not enough staff and too many kids. Teachers and youth services are already heavily under funded. It would be an absolute joke to cut from here. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I do not believe youth services should have any reductions in funds. It has already been cut to the bare minimum half of youth clubs across West Lothian were shut in the last savings and the very little that is left are over worked and over stretched. Too many kids not enough Staff or clubs! The same goes for school's no cuts should be made to staffing here and more funds should be provided. Again, not enough staff and too many kids. Teachers and youth services are already heavily under funded. It would be an absolute joke to cut from here. How about looking further into the structure of road management services. Council workers for road digs, traffic management, pot holes bad road resurfacing. It would seem there is an over staffed issue here. Many times I have seen and it is widely seen by others. 5 men on the job but only 2 working. This is actually a laughing point by many. West Lothian Council can't staff there schools but can pay street services to sit and watch the show.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment, but this question relates to early learning and childcare, not youth services or roads maintenance.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Young people need to be in some; Form; Of education suitable; For them; As this reduces the number of kids out causing trouble and drinking and they need to be kept busy and focussed on something	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Young people need all the help and support they can get in these challenging times, don't reduce services for them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Make places for young people to go and enjoy what they do by not letting them terrine nighbourhoody	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More fir teenagers would be much needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth services need a review to ensure all young people are being reached - too many not attending school. Needs more funding not less!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This statement is misleading, offensive and ill-informed. Yes the MCMC programme works extremely well for young people approaching school leaving age and post school. However the Work with Young people (Youth Work) part of CLD Youth Services is every bit as valuable in terms of earlier intervention and equality of access. Why would you want to wait until young people are nearly 16 before giving them such opportunities.; CLD Youth Services are constantly underestimated and undervalued, we provide essential support for young people on matters of health and wellbeing, personal and social learning and development, and wider achievement. We provide opportunities for socialising and learning about civic responsibility. We provide opportunities for young people to learn new skills, explore and develop their confidence, independence and social skills. Youth work start from where young people are at in life, the role of a youth worker is to build relationships with young people based on being partners in the process, meaning that the adult is not in an authoritarian position to the young person. I have seen and heard countless accounts from young people on how valuable these relationships have been. Youth work is also based on the choice to participate, this massively changes the relationship between young person and worker, both parties are choosing for the engagement to take place. ; I was working in a youth work in schools group this week with young people accused of committing a spate of recent anti-social and criminal behaviour in the community. I asked them what they thought when I described working with them to my colleague as "the highlight of my week", they did not believe because they do not believe anyone could think this because they do not think they are worth it, however despite their bravado they were visibly touched. This interaction meant something to them. We then moved on to talking about job aspirations, politics, the cost of living crisis and plans for the future. I had asked them these questions before and got a range of masked answers from drug dealers to hit men etc, the answers then evolved to plumber, might join the army, want to work with cars etc. One young man said he just wanted to have a family and be able to support them. As a team we are now working with the community these young people come from to support them to offer a project to these	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Teen services would have a better chance of working if do not cut nurture teaching out primary education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Disagree - maintain both services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No cuts to youth services The cuts are to much, and they are going to make it worse for anyone who is poor.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	disagree with these proposed cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment and	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Very valuable service and should not be cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I think that this approach is short sighted. If youth work had a more focussed approach, was issue based to work with those most needed it would be the early intervention to MCMC which is Mai my. Ended because our education social policy and youth work services are not aligned and set the correct priorities. Youth work is not about employability. It is about informal education that enables young people to develop as a whole person so should be needs led. Haven't seen this approach in West Lothian for many years. I do agree with youth services being based in schools which they were in the past and it was deemed that that was not the right approach. As a qualified and experienced Community Education Worker I believe that with the right strategic approach the council could create better value with this service. Don not agree with this cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We feel this is not a good idea for a number of reasons. Youth work gives you a whole different kind of teaching, which many young people cannot get in and benefit from in schools. Youth work has provided us with different things like bike skills, youth leadership, cooking skills, social involvement and other volunteering opportunities we would not have got elsewhere. If you get rid of youth work, you get rid of a lot of young people's social lives and things like foreign exchanges/trips which provide many young people with opportunities they are not lucky enough to have in their own home lives. (provided by Vennie Youth Forum of 10 young people between 10-15 years old, with their consent); ; (Testament from one young person - 15) If it wasn't for the youth club i go to, then i would not be involved in the community council here and would be on a different path. I now have 500 hours of volunteering. Youth clubs give younbg people like me opportunity to get away from the home.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This will bring problems later on	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Youth services are an absolutely vital part of council service provision and they are already stretched too thin following years of under-funding and short-term funding structures. I have seen at first-hand the excellent support and positive outcomes that services such as LYPP provide, they should be supported and expanded, not threatened with closure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Never heard of it, so can't comment. Thought all children had to be in school, training or employment...	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Not sure the impact of this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I am not familiar with this service so cannot comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Children need help after the mess adults have made of their lives, sadly I don't have an answer for this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Details again please in order to comment! I thought you were planning to cut back in money given to schools and yet this policy seems to be putting more work back onto the schools?!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More young people cuts?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No idea where the saving is coming from so cant comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Didn't know this even existed tbh	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Does this mean cutting MCMC services altogether?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	ive noted the repsonse above in the social care section	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	no views on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Na	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I don't know enough about this programme to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Again, no information on what will be cut so how can anyone possibly comment?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No all children find school an easy place and all children are different to MCMC should continue to help our young people	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I think greater community involvement in schools and education is a good thing. The grandparent/ grandchild relationship can support a young person through the difficulties of adolescence. Not all older people have grandchildren locally, this is a resource which could be tapped into. However, one doesn't know much about the local school if you are not a parent of children there. Outreach would be required.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC has its greatest impact on those youngsters that the school/education system has failed. Why are the schools failing these youngsters?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. MCMC is designed to ensure schools do not 'fail' pupils.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	should be done because some young people don't want to learn or work all they want is to cause vandalism, shoplift and take drugs	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	if this group works right it was a good idea but they don't seem to help very many hopefully it will change and be better	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Is this only aimed at some young people?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. MCMC is a service based on need, and is not universal.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Not heard of this scheme therefore cannot make comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	What about the Young disabled people that left school?; Clubs? Activities? Support?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. The MCMC team will offer support to pupils including those with a disability who require additional support progressing to a positive destination.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Surely this should then get more funding not less if it is successful?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is to continue to invest in the MCMC service.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	What youth services?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is greatly required	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There are no youth services to speak of anymore so what are you saving £500k on exactly? Much more information required to make an informed comment. This initiative seems good but should have been done anyway for those slipping through the cracks. ; You should be looking at initiatives for engagement with all young people while they are still at school so they have something positive to be involved in.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More communication for non school children not in mainstream	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Important for young people to get help	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Also, perhaps offering more apprenticeships within WLC?	4. The council is already doing this.	Apprenticeships are offered by WLC services.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Time for local employers to step up here - who will be the politician or council official skilled and courageous enough to lead this vital change?	4. The council is already doing this.	Partnership with local employers to provide work experience, apprenticeships, jobs etc is a feature of current MCMC arrangements.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Our youth is our future, younger people being given the right support to access training and employment should take priority however I have no idea whether the programme More Choices More Chances actually makes a difference as I have no statistics to explain what this project has achieved. For me if it has made a difference why are we not investing more?	4. The council is already doing this.	The MCMC service aims to maximise the number of young people progressing to positive destinations, maximising their chances, and West Lothian statistics have improved over time.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Mental health services for ALL students would have an immeasurable impact on the lives of ALL young people.	4. The council is already doing this.	Counselling is provided in all secondary schools.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Opportunities for communities to work more closely together to support children and young people.	4. The council is already doing this.	The CLD plan is a partnership document, and proposals to enhance community empowerment will support this.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	So to give these young people better/mor opportunities, how cna this be done through such a large saving??? Surely we should be injecting money into this area?	4. The council is already doing this.	The MCMC service aims to maximise the number of young people progressing to positive destinations, maximising their chances, and West Lothian statistics have improved over time.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Only a small number of young people will have access to this.	4. The council is already doing this.	The MCMC service is targeted at pupils with specific characteristics.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Engaging young people in this initiative may be challenging. How does the council quantify the cost of running the service against successful outcomes?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I have never even heard of this initiative, and I have been looking for support to transition my son into further education depending on his appeal or some other learning partnership/employment scheme. Despite querying opportunities, I have never been advised about this initiative.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	"young people not in education, employment or training"; Please focus on this topic	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It is so important that our young people have choices available when they leave school. This includes college or University, apprenticeships or employment. It is really good that initiatives are in place and this needs to continue in the future. Making options available before young people leave school is so important.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	You need to explain and share these services are actually there to parents for a start	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Due to Covid some kids need help to get work that they did before	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Young folk who have taken the decision to leave school without further thought are a problem and possibly this is something that could be picked up early in school. Some pupils may need extra help and leave school because they didn't get the help needed early enough.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Its not stated how West Lothian compares on NIEET with other local authorities on average and ranges across school communities so that we can judge the effectiveness or necessity of such expenditure. I recall , for instance , that Linlithgow Academy's catchment compared very favourably on that outcome measure. Therefore conclusions must be reserved on whether this spend needs saving or concentrated on where need in isolated catchments is greatest to improve the outcome.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Young people are important for the economy and future planning in West Lothian, they should be supported where possible.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I have a child in this category and have never heard of this service. Sounds lovely though!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I think this area could be helped more by empowering the school leavers with their options. The old YTS Scheme was great, gave kids opportunities to all different types of jobs.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	What happens to the youths that don't go down the MCMC route, and their group of choice is no longer funded?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC is an excellent programme.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian's support for MCMC pupils has proved effective at increasing numbers progressing to a positive destination.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC sounds excellent	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian's support for MCMC pupils has proved effective at increasing numbers progressing to a positive destination.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Outsourcing of facilities could be reviewed	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	What youth services? There are hardly eny to begin with! Try investing in our youth and we might not end up with another generation of drug addicts!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The council needs to ensure that positive destinations for ALL of our children are available.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Not all young people require support from MCMC services.	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We need to ensure that our young people are equipped and supported to live in todays climate, budgeting skills, living independently	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	it should be opened up to more people not less as employment levels are extremely high	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This service should be opened up to more young people not less as the unemployment levels are rising. Young people are applying for jobs and college places that are now being filled with people who have experience due to companies that are shutting down; There should be more support given to young people	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	it should be opened up to more young people not less as employment levels are extremely high	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	should be open to more young people not less because of the rise of employment	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Due to young people unemployment being high and should be increased to assist more young people into employment, training and further education	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	should be opened up to more young people rather than less as unemployment is rising, as young people are rivalling older people for employment.	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	more young people not less	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I am a MCMC young person and this service is important and can't change. If someone is leaving school and doesn't know where to turn this service can help.	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC has been an unsuccessful initiative for years and years and this is why there will not be a significant reduction in the saving	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work. Numbers of young people progressing to positive destinations have increased in West Lothian.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The mor choices available the more choices for innovation ,, but only if participan wants it	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This can be a difficult age group to support and depending on their background a more extensive approach is required that can be more costly and getting it right for the young person is crucial, so not aware of overall budget but cuts could impact negatively on young people.	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC services and routes for young people need to be more transparent and easier to access. Young people not in education, employment or training will often not engage with services, may have had negative experiences of school and may be lacking in parental support. Without a trusted adult or service in place to help navigate the system, it is currently quite difficult for young people to easily find out what options are available for them. Better information on the website and more interactive digital content may help with this.	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More chances,more choices ?? where ?? there is NOTHING !	4. The council is already doing this.	MCMC is a targeted service, based on need. The proposal is to increase the focus on this work.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Working with sports groups would help this	4. The council is already doing this.	Opportunities exist for young people to participate in sport and leisure at school and in the community.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We are in for a rough time, the kids are hard enough, we need investment!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There needs to be a massive investment in this, I've seen how effective the Hub at West calder high school has been, not all children thrive in traditional classrooms, not all children should simply be passed to pupil support to manage either. A WLC mantra of "GIRFEC" should mean EVERY child & not just the ones who are easy or who the school get more funding for due to their additional requirements	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council proposes to continue investing in the MCMC service.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Whilst I think MCMC is a worthy project for funding. What about the services for children who are in education/employment/training. We surely cant have services just for marganalised groups and ignore the developmental need of children who do not qualify for mcmc.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Schools cater for children who are progressing to a positive destination through all of the services they provide. MCMC is additionality for those who need extra support.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Our education system should offer vocational training to children who have not been able to access the curriculum.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Work experience, vocational qualifications and apprenticeships are offered in partnership with employers and colleges.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I like MCMC. More choices and chances is a good thing	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Our local community group already works alongside schools providing training. This should happen across more communities.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Work experience, vocational qualifications and apprenticeships are offered in partnership with employers and colleges, and community groups can make a contribution.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Young people need all the guidance they can get and to be shown that there are so many pathways to success	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. This guidance can be given through school based education and services such as MCMC.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	You could also look at talking to the NHS and introducing Mental health care in school. Also looking at extreme waiting times when it comes to it may be a good idea.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council has invested in counselling and mental health support.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Performance reviews and accountability should be in place showing positive destinations for services funded by the council.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The MCMC service works with partners on the basis of their ability to support young people into positive destinations.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More apprenticeships for young people	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Pupils in education should be supported by schools. ; This sound like a rehash of Thatcher's YTS schemes in schools in the 80's. It didn't work.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The MCMC programme is not the same as YTS.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC needs to have a strong profile in schools - young people are not all about achieving 3+ or 5+ Highers and the sooner we stop focusing on that the better.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The proposal is to continue to invest in the MCMC service.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Feel kids leaving school should be supported more especially when some are let down by the schooling system	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. MCMC is support specifically for those leaving school who need it most.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Work with young people with local authority services providing this not outsourcing	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	As a parent of 2 teenagers in school I am not aware of this programme. I believe the focus should not always be about education but also job skills and training. School may not always be the right place for every person and alternative options should be more available.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. MCMC is support specifically for those leaving school who need it most in order to progress to a positive destination.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Very important that MCMC objectives are fulfilled.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This needs to reach more young people, there is barriers to accessing these. Such as a young person not being in school for 2+years before they hit 15years old, then services become available. What about the years of education missed prior to these services being available. Again, this falls on to social policy staff such as family support workers, when the issue is education. ; There needs to be a service that caters for children of all ages, who are struggling to access education. This needs to be developed using a joint working approach.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Joint working approaches exists to support attendance at school, and are at their most effective when all partners play their part.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The services provided by MCMC are hugely important and highly successful in improving the outcomes for young people so I feel this should be a priority service kept by the Council.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC should continue to be supported	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	A project with local trades could be implemented allowing on the job learning in the building trades to support better apprenticeships as the limitations for young people and adults alike are too hard to access	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council works with local employers and colleges to offer work experience, apprenticeships and other work based learning.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Would it be possible to expand the council's current graduate schemes to allow these young people without education the opportunity to work within the council in some capacity to build their experience and confidence? This could include helping staff at community centres to set up events or performing receptionist duties at various sites or could even include "office" work such as assisting services with reporting and other manual tasks that would free up full time staff to take on more complex tasks	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council works with local employers and colleges to offer work experience , apprenticeships and other work based learning, and Council services play their part in this.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It is vital that you g people are given the support to move l toapositive destination and are giving na k into society.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. This is the purpose of the MCMC team.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	What about mainstream kids, focusing on a small section of kids is the wrong approach. We are creating a devide and giving opportunities to kids that can't be sustained in mainstream education and forgetting about the others.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Schools cater for children who are progressing to a positive destination through all of the services they provide. MCMC is additionality for those who need extra support..
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I have 4 young vulnerable adults with additional needs in my care through the council and have never been made aware of this service !	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. MCMC is support specifically for those leaving school who need it most in order to progress to a positive destination.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We need to make sure Young people are economically active otherwise we shall have a nation of lay abouts and the Scottish economy could be in line for a serious crash. Schools need to have a jobs guidance councillor who can advise on school subjects college courses and how to access employment.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The MCMC programme is part of this approach.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Important to recognise the very significant contribution of third sector to youth work in some communities; ensure they can maintain that ie some funding! or else it will cost WLC much, much more in the long run.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council work with the third sector to deliver the CLD plan. The consultation contains specific proposals relating to community empowerment and partnership.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Opportunity for greater use of council's outdoor facilities.; ; From previous YTS training on an Agricultural / Horticultural workshop which was used as a pilot for improving transferrable skills in unemployed 16 - 17year-olds, through a mixture of classroom and outdoor task-based learning - most of the young people, who were not ready to go straight from school, went on to gain employment with improved numeracy, literacy, communication, practical and job seeking skills.; ; Many with various issues worked better in an outdoor environment!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The Council works with local employers and colleges to offer work experience , apprenticeships and other work based learning, and Council services play their part in this.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC team is worth its weight in gold, keep them at full staff.	4. The council is already doing this.	This is what is proposed.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Don't just cut the other services - support the transition to schools and community learning partners.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. The provision of services to young people through the CLD plan is in partnership between council services and other partners.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Essential that the relevant trade unions are fully involved in the process.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	should be more awareness about mcmc	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. School staff are aware of the services offered by the MCMC team.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Utilise use of buildings that are already open during operational times. Possible use of shuttle bus service to reduce amount of properties needed to be open to cater for if cost effective?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Shocked that primary 1 and primary 2 are now not allowed to go to the kids/youth clubs! Are you going to set up a separate club for them.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Partner with community playgroups to be able to provide a place of employment for young people that means their wages are either part funded or fully funded by WLC. This solves ELC AND youth unemployment.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There are also too many pupils remaining in the final years of secondary schools when alternative opportunities would be of greater benefit to them. This would also help to reduce waste in secondary school budgets.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Get a job or stop their money	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Can these programmes be used to fill the nice to have gaps in DSM such as tidying gardens in schools ,painting in schools etc?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Using council services to provide child labour is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC does not work and is an unfair service. An example of this is young people who are exceptional entrants to college automatically get a space. They should be case managed by staff in school to allow the service of more choices and more chances to actually live up to its name and support young people who do need more help rather than the ones who know what they want to do.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. The MCMC service is designed to support young people who need help progressing to a positive destination.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Personally I think a holistic approach to youth unemployment in UK. This should not even be a choice. Yeah not everyone is academically gifted nor naturally skilled. Life is a bitch so putting people into social/military service to reconnect them with society giving them a sense of purpose as oppose to becoming a drain of resources in later life. I'm sure that would give the helpless the help and skills they need to evolve and progress hopefully into skilled and fruitful careers . This also potentially helps councils with man power to get stuff done that needs doing.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. The council lacks the legal powers to introduce conscription, or compulsory labour.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	We are really concerned about all your cutting of services. We are in no doubt about who is to blame for this We just wish we could get help for it all ; We need a really good group of people to assess these cuts. Not convinced the council or councillors are the people to undertake this	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. Elected representatives have responsibility for determining the Council's budget.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	If council staff are reducing, why can't some practical tasks be done by people who are seeking employment. They get paid benefits and the discipline required to work will be instilled prior to getting a job.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. The Council does not have power to introduce compulsory work in return for benefits.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	many hands AGAIN. pair healthy people not in education or work with staff doing what we need done like Food farming, (o thats right those council facilities were closed years ago) on local farms, litter picking, janitorial, community building repair and maintenance etc etc.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Maybe council can supply some youth work staff and local committees can match it in partnership. Our kids clubs and youth clubs are important to us.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Increase in teaching / courses provided by West Lothian College?; Suggests that some pupils better off in apprenticeships than staying at school. May well be true but justification to be provided	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Have a look at modes such as goodtrees and canon gate youth and citadel in Edinburgh. Maybe youth provision to help young people in communities should look like this. Outcomes would be better	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Use some of the money to reduce waiting times for CAHMS	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This service is inconsistent and can be improved. SDS provide a high level of support for young people. Outcomes for this service can vary significantly and this may not be reflected in the stats. I would urge caution in investing further in an initiative that is named after a policy initiated by a previous government over a decade ago. Parental feedback for this service should be sought and school staff and SMT teams should be asked for their views. Other areas of youth services have real strengths but these will be largely under reported due to lack of robust data collection.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I think offering voluntary, vocational courses into the work place would help alleviate this problem with regards to some young people. If they were willing to complete a set time limit (a 6/12 course) offering a certificate at the end could possibly help them in their quest to find employment. It would also offer them the opportunity to sample a work ethos environment.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I am not sure that Yout Services are always the best people to deliver the MCMC programme, I still firmly believe that Pupil Support staff in school are best placed to deliver this initiative	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Practical skills will become more important so working with the community to better support young adults into work experience would be welcome. However, can we focus on quality rather than quantity here. Figures will tell only part of a story and we should be looking to better understand the opportunities that young people experience.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There are zero youth services/facilities in our local area. - mid calder	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Is MCMC (More Choices, More Chances) a recognised national initiative? What is its provenance? Focus on mentoring through the MCMC process. Careful of unintended consequences of the one blunt metric - it will drive bad innovative work around solutions - a better metric would be the percentage of "fulfilled young people", driving this towards 100%.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	With the massive amounts of underage drinking and anti-social behaviour we need to maintain Youth programmes and facilities. Some parents would probably be willing to volunteer to help but they will need buildings and funds to provide activities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Good in theory but there are those with ASN that may not be able to participate and feel pressurised to do so. Please bare this in mind when writing up your policies.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Involve local businesses.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Is there a role for more vocational training in craft skills, appliance repair etc	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It would be interesting to see the stats on young people in west lothian against other areas, before commenting. I note that there are charity organisations that specialise in this area, particularly within the underprivileged, but West Lothian Council are not engaged with an organisation with proven record of improving this area. It is interesting the MCMC is a West Lothian pathway to help this, but a national charity, MCR pathways has a proven track record in many other local authorities, but WLC chooses not to seek partnership with this group. Sounds like efficiencies could be made on this, and cost reduced by providing a better service, with external assistance who specialise in this area.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Getting experience of life is and important factor	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It doesn't appear to make sense to make cuts to the area of youth services that is the most effective. Perhaps a review of the areas less successful would make more sense.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	3C Service restructure of youth services. Beginning at the end of this year, would it not be frugally positive to create a Uniform Donation Facility in every school? As each year group either move onto the next year, or leave, the blazers and ties are given to the facility, thus eventually having a massive resource with which to ensure parents don't have to spend money on expensive new uniforms. This works very well in youth football as each team outgrow their kits and are passed into what is essentially a bank, however, as an ex-teacher it would be wise to avoid such language associated with poverty, food banks etc. Eventually the hope is that in years hence, blazers and ties are an expected item of uniform "loaned" to the pupil with an expected return at the end of each academic year, unless, of course, parents wish to buy new items, which will, hopefully, find their way into the uniform facility at some point.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Many schools facilitate the passing on of good quality uniform items between pupils and families, but this could be addressed in partnership with bodies such as the School Bank.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Why everything has been separated is just baffling to me surely it is in the young persons best interest for services to work together and more effective for funding if they all have access to the same resources and can easily refer	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	MCMC. I wonder who came up with that wonderful acronym. Although, if I had ever heard of it (which I haven't until now), I may have thought it meant More Cuts More Chaos.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Are these savings being made by passing this work into schools who are already struggling to deliver expectations?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	That's a laugh out loud moment what youth services are you cutting are you going to tarmac over parks to reduce grass cutting	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	One of the main reasons children are dropping out is bullying and schools inability to deal with this...	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I am confused the branding 'more choices, more chances' does not align with 'less money, less resources'	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	No attempt to even say realigning will bring this saving.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This does not make sense. The programme cannot maintain its provision with less funding.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	where is the saving made from? its unclear from this statement. I wish it had more detail to enable appropriate comments to be made (something the council could very much improve on for effective community consultation).	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	If this means WLC will lose our CLD teams this is not clear or transparent.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It doesn't really explain what will stop?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	More knowledge of these services needed,	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It is unclear where these savings will be realised - further information is required	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Find it difficult to comment on this as it says what you want to focus on but doesn't say what will stop to meet that level of savings	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I do not see how the description is making it clear where savings will be made.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to where savings are being made	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It would not be right to offer feedback without a sound understanding of the services this relates to.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Too little information	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It's not clear how money will be saved by this.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	dont really know what this mean	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Not sure how this saves money either	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Not sure what this means. Will there be leisure and opportunities for young people to access as well as support where needed?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	This is double speak as you talk about what you are going to focus on but don't mention what that means for other areas. More clarity required before a decision can be made. If the same s service level can be maintained by a less expensive means we will obviously be accepting.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	I don't understand the question. How is the service being changed and what are the pros and cons? You have in no way defined what the £500,000 saving represents?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Can't see how this will save budget. More detail please.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	How does this save money?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Not enough information given about proposed changes but MCMC is a very worthwhile service that should be invested in further.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	It is not clear what would be done to reduce costs from this proposal.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Without information on what services had the second, third, fourth, etc, biggest impact via youth services then it is hard to support this saving. On face value it sounds logical.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Community Empowerment an	3C Service Re-structure of Youth Services	Which services will be cut then? Please use clear language.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Multiple Staff at recycling centres observed sitting doing nothing for long periods perhaps numbers could be reduced	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	CRC Staff levels are in line with relevant risk assessments for individual sites. Staff on site are permitted to take breaks on site.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Staff at recycling centres often observed either playing cards, drinking coffee or sunbathing not actually helping or working, perhaps multiple employees only need to be present on part time basis when tasks demanding multiple employees could be scheduled?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	CRC Staff levels are in line with relevant risk assessments for individual sites. Staff on site are permitted to take breaks on site.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I think they recycling works really well and sVes money i always recycling everything i encouraged this v	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No issues with this proposal, if it still allows people access to service and doesn't increase public health issues through fly tipping etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The Community Recycling Centres (3 off in WLC) provide an excellent service and I believe they play an important part in reducing the amount of fly-tipping in WLC, which I believe is lower than adjacent areas and very expensive to "clean up". Possible to reduce the number to 2 (from 3). Alternatively could WLC and Falkirk Councils "work together - as there is a very large Recycling Centre between Bo'ness and Grangemouth - which could "absorb" the Linlithgow unit - for a contribution from WLC.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I would be happy paying slightly more council tax to help with these services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree. More detail please	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good idea in principal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree with this, however would need more information. I believe the council has paid more money on illegal dumping than if they had been sensible with the recycling centres.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	From outwith the organisation, it is difficult to comment on detail, but from the outside, I am really happy with the services offered, especially bin collection/bulky uplift, I used to be a citizen of Edinburgh for 10 years and the communication between identifying an issue, having a notification it has been received, and then receiving an update has been what one can expect, whereas in Edinburgh it was very much lacking in terms of feedback, so please keep this up! Its been important to me while settling in here, so thank you for the work that you do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree that community recycling opening hours should be aligned with periods of high demand. The current provision is completely over the top given the challenges faced to balance budgets.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good idea in the main. However, it will increase fly tipping as people will not pay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Amazing work thanks 👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree - the council has too many sites. The council cannot afford excessive capacity - our neighbours only have a few sites, West Lothian has far too much. West Lothian is compact enough geographically that this should not be a concern. Concerns about flytipping are a distraction - focus should be on engagement, communication and education.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Yes - anything in this area should be prioritised	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Very happy to support recycling but there have to be options and availability to do so.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Yes, but this is still an essential Council service and should not be simply downsized and underfunded	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Would it be an idea to charge for brown bins as for example Edinburgh council does? I'd be happy to pay something like £25 a year for this. I know more food etc may then end up in grey bins but I feel that many people do not use the brown bins anyway and it my simplify collections of there were fewer. Also less frequent brown collections in winter? My brown bin is nearly empty each time so I don't always put it out.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is not needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Sounds good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Some services will need to be cut & this seems reaonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We will adapt to changes in this area	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I support this policy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Aware West Lothian has a higher number of civic amenity sites per head of population, area covered than most other local authorities. Based on the savings that will be needed, a realistic and sensible option would be to reduce the number of civic amenity sites surely.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	yep	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree. But would add that accessable recycling centres help reduce fly tipping etc, so are useful to avoid items being discarded in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	all recycling plans are welcomed to cut costs and wastage	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agreed, as long as collection services are unaffected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres need to be open when people need them - as long as they are accessible across the week for working households then this is okay. Evenings and weekends should be the priority. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	About time this was reviewed. Again staff performance is an issue for me here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is a natural proposal in the difficult financial climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling centres are very well organised and managed in my experience. Staff are always very helpful. Any positive changes for staff, customers and the environment welcome.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good idea. We seem to have an awful lot of community recycling centres in West Lothian. Reducing some of the days they are open would probably not be popular to start with, but people would soon get used to it and adapt.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I moved from Edinburgh to West Lothian. It has always seemed silly to me that west lothian has so many recycling centres, while edinburgh had so few. West Lothian is a small authority, you can drive from one side to the other in 30 minutes even with traffic, I think there should be a cut in the number of recycling centres with a focus on keeping the more accessible ones open.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	CRC site provision across West Lothian could be rationalised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Review as it is poor.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Vast inprovement needed as it's lacking just now	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Support, and please introduce more charges for waste collection such as glass and brown bins	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Fine but no supporting information.; I understood that recycling was the direction that we should go. This is a real cost	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Currently I am sure the service standards are not met within the waste management teams. Any improvement would be good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	look at neighboring councils. They do it well - reduce opening hours with less than half the venues. It can be done if Councilors have the strength to make hard decisions this is an obvious one. Reduce the number of CRCs and opening hours	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As long as they are open when people need to use them, this could be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As long as they are open when we need them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As long as requirement isn't to charge people to go to community recycling centres as we all know this will encourage more fly tipping. When you charged for bulky uplifts it has cost the council tens of thousands to clear up mess from the fly tipping and I don't even want to think what charging to use CRC would cost the council in clear up.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	While not wanting to lose services, I'm sure the proposals will be well thought out. The changes you have made to bin collections seems to have delivered savings and people need to wake up and take more responsibility for the stuff they buy and the waste that this produces. If people don't like washing out their plastic, then they should stop buying stuff wrapped in plastic. In fact, the manufacturers and shops should contribute to the recycling of this waste.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good Idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Excellent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Go for it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This sounds effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Yes review the service provided - I understand savings do need to be found.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Any way we can make improvement is great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Glad	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Management levels are top heavy in this department. The private sector wouldn't tolerate this level of bureaucracy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As long as out of normal business hours access is still available, no issues with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	A reduction in opening times particularly in the winter could help save some costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We have a duty to reduce costs and save money, not just now!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If the CRC can be can more efficiently - then that is a good thing - need to keep recycling for the environment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Further savings could be made here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Limiting the opening times seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As long as any changes to opening days and times are communicated this should be an easy change to make.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree with proposal- still retain possibly stagger weekend opening	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is an area where it must be difficult to achieve success in making savings, as the West Lothian public have to want to "buy-in" to the idea of creating less waste or need to use recycling centres. The "Recycling" part of peoples' garbage disposal is too often ignored and this saving of £336,000 is to be applauded if it can be achieved.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree - sounds reasonable. Need to consider that any changes which make it harder or more costly for residents to recycle or dispose of their waste may deter them from doing so appropriately.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling is important if you can save ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	agree. Although seriously think about a glass bin?.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	close at least 2. Look at other councils who manage	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Perhaps recycling centres could be closed on the least busy days of the week to make savings?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Service centers could reduce their hours as often they sit empty.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Only if still open at weekends	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The various recycling bins make sense as long as the waste is dealt with properly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	WLC has community recycling services to be proud of. If these cuts will retain the opening hours, staffing then this is a suitable cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	New bins perhaps?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Would support rationalising the CRC's to reduce costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	could reduce the days/hours that recycling centres are open - perhaps sharing staff over 2 sites. Certainly dont close any as that will only increase what people put into their black bin and/or result in an increase of fly tipping.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The service currently delivered is already the absolute minimum and can not be reduced further although staffing levels at the local amenity could be reduced with no reduction in the service they provide.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	yes, you only need 1 member of staff to check skips are being used properly, not 4 to sit in the hut and drink tea and take backhanders from trade to dump their waste.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Look at centres opening hours etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reduced hours is fine but please make sure that hours are fully advertised to save wasted journeys	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Sounds sensible and makes a significant cost saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Also appears a sound proposal without looking like too much impact on service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As long as there are enough to service needs, more and more people are attending them now as they cannot keep on top of their domestic rubbish despite recycling programme.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I can accept that savings need to be made, but instead of completely closing community recycling centres, perhaps recycling centres can be opened on specific days of the week only. My worry is that if recycling centres are closed, flytipping will be increased as I saw on the outskirts of Beecraigs during the early part of the pandemic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Judging by Linlithgow Recycling centre the hours/staff could be reduced at certain times of the day/week.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Seems sensible to reduce the hours.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Agree work needed to make the recycling centres more; Efficient	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	You could charge for brown bins uplift to be fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This seems sensible, or alternatively introducing a small charge for servidcs which do not have a statutory duty to deliver	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This service has been pared back enough	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ludicrous we now have 4 bins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Households collections are in accordance with the Scottish Government Charter for Household Recycling and is a model being rolled out across Scotland in a similar way.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling services are vital for our environment. Huge cutbacks here would result in fly tipping. West Lothian is in a bad enough state with previous cutbacks to council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As previously stated cutting these essential services would not be seen positively and would encourage fly tipping which in turn will cost more to clear up so therefore not much saving would be made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I'm happy with the current recycling provision	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling provision is excellent - any way to improve this would be appreciated. Staff at the centres are a key part of the service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Surely not less frequent collections?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Considering the reduction in the number of community recycling centres i think WLC should high think before closing any further centre if they do not wish to see a raise in number of fly tipping instances which then costs more to clean up than originally leaving the recycling centres open in the first place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I have found in the past when you state review it usually means reduce staff but there is no improvement to the service, I would want to know what the review entailed before commenting. Saving money is another word for reduction in services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	How do we then manage the potential increase in fly tipping?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reducing opening hours will lead to more fly-tipping, which is already a problem in some areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These need kept open otherwise be more fly tipping than ever	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Already find it difficult to visit recycling unit with changes to opening hours.; Would welcome a seperate bin for glass	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Glass Bins points are provided across West Lothian, including at CRCs
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not everyone can use the sites during the working day (being at work). Evening and weekend access is paramount, especially as the council is pushing people to use them with the reduction in size and what is collected at the curb.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Currently CRC sites are closed when most people who work are able to use them - ie - evenings and so are extremely busy over weekends which discourages people from using them - It is important that householder can access these sites at times that are convenient to them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Vital services which must be maintained	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	They struggle as it is, so reducing hours/centres surely should not be an option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Does this mean reduced opening hours or fewer recycling centres? Either of these scenarios would just result in more fly-tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No more cuts to services and access to recycling centres, less access means more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Shouldn't make cuts to the recycling centers this always ends up with more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Closing these was disastrous the last time, learn lessons and don't do it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	already dont open enough hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Already been reduced too much which is evident in the increase in fly tipping throughout the county.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The Recycling centre ensures that no one dumps things in and around West Lothian. You know in the longrun this is a huge strain on WLC funding. Keep the Recycling as you have it as you will spend more money in the long run for clean up.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste services must be maintained at a sensible and user convenient level, without the public needing to jump through hoops to use it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The cuts and service changes already made by WLC in waste services have already severely impacted and reduced the quality of waste services across the area. Can we not just jump straight to 52 bins per household, with each bin being emptied one week of every year henceforth? We're heading in that direction anyway, might as well skip the middle man, eh? It's no surprise to me and shouldn't be a surprise to the council either that fly-tipping has drastically increased since new measures have been introduced over recent years. Again, robbing Peter to pay Paul. Nonsense.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	When the recycling centres reduced their hours there were more episodes of fly tipping. Can an incentive be introduced to encourage residents to use the centres instead of disposing of items in rural areas or by the side of roads	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	You need to be careful that any reduction or change in hours doesn't lead to an increase in fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling centres are a great asset and don't think this provision should be reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More self drop off provision may help. Recycling is a must and cost to households for pick up will only reverse the good work started	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Do not touch these again, there are no longer enough services as it stands. Fly tipping is at its worst every levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The community recycling centres are propping up the poor waste collection service in West Lothian. If efficiencies are made here the fly tipping will increase and the community in general will be overwhelmed by waste which is happening already. This leads to vermin which then leads to call outs to deal with that. Another false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	They need to be open frequently and perhaps relocating to bigger easier accessed sites to encourage use	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These are all services that we pay for, and it seems every idea the council comes up with is actually more wasteful	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Decreasing recycling leads to increased fly tipping. Review should not cut access to recycling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If you reduce this already beleaguered service any further then fly tipping will increase (it has already done so) not on!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Spending money on extra green and talking bins was a waste of money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The provision of new litter bins was funded from a different funding source and not revenue budgets.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I use the recycling centre at Oakbank frequently. It offers an amazing service and the staff there are exemplary. I certainly wouldn't change anything there	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As long as it is remembered that if you cut hours or close recycling centres, there will be an increase in dumping of waste & fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If you cut these, the rubbish has to go somewhere else - possibly more expensive to remove/recycle?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling and waste centres have already been cut in recent years. It is no wonder that flytipping and refuse around West Lothian has increased. This is definitely not an area that needs funding cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Do not mess about with our bins again. I live in a one bedroom mid terrace and don't have enough room for 4 bins. I am unable to get to the tip to get rid of excess rubbish due to disability and unable to drive and no help is given.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These are necessary as you mess with our bins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reduction in these services will just cause more fly tipping and West Lothian is already a bit of a mess. Don't do it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centres are on their knees as it is, more cuts are a ridiculous idea! You ask for us all to recycle Nd what we can't do at home, take to recycle centres. Half of them are already shut, so more cuts will only heighten the need not ease it!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Hopefully not reducing opening hours as this just results in more fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We need our recycling centers, or else we will have illegal dumping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Close the sites then you will increase fly tipping and then have to uplift it and pay the costs. This to me doesn't make sense should be better access not reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community Recycling Centres are essential. However there are too rules and regulations which seem designed to make it difficult for people to use them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The Community Recycling Centres provide an essential and valued community service. Any changes to Community Recycling Centres should not make it unreasonably difficult for the public to deposit waste at the centres. Otherwise, there is a risk that fly-tipping or other means of illegally disposing of waste will increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Further cuts on top of those already made!!! Disgrace. More fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We have tried this before - and ended up re-instating the service - what is going to be different this time around?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These have already been cut, at the cost of increased fly tipping and littering around West Lothian. The volunteers for WLLP are the ones who seem to be responsible for keeping WL tidy, not the council. What exactly am I paying my increased Council Tax for?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The waste management is already pretty dire compared to other councils...but I guess West Lothian Council can always rely on more volunteers to do the work for them (see West Lothian litter pickers).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is an essential service if we don't want to see an increase in fly tipping in our area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling is always busy when I go and well run, cuts will make this impossible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I have no idea how there can be any savings clawed back from this dept as they are already working on a skeleton team.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Hours for recycling services have already been altered. Too many more reductions will lead to more fly-tipping and rubbish being dumped outside sites on days they are closed. Recycling centres are essential to provide a more environmentally friendly way to deal with rubbish.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling services need the requirements they have just now as they are used very often by the public I don't feel it needs reduced as there is not that many recycling centres in west lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Think the way it is collected at the moment works	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Closing centres needs to be a last resort.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling needs to be open more not less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Cuts to recycling centres will see more fly tipping and effectively a rise in fly tipping having to be cleaned up. This was seen lots during lockdown when reduced opening and timings saw people dumping huge amounts of rubbish in rural areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Here we go again! Messing about with recycling centres whilst needing EVERYONE to do their bit for the environment. Has West Lothian Council not signed up to recognising the climate emergency? If patterns of usage have been analysed then this might be ok but if not, people will be travelling more to get to a recycling centre and therefore causing more pollution overall. Don't support based on this limited information.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Changes to Recycling Centre hours have been tried before and resulted in an increase in fly tipping which then needed to be cleaned up, incurring a cost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Too many of the places have already been closed, people will be less likely to recycle if they have to travel further to do it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I fail to see how more cuts can be made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There are very poor recycling facilities currently, they are inadequate and insufficient. This should be priority area as we move to create and meet climate targets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	However, if you mean some Recycling Centres will be shut down then a definite NO. We are meant to be trying to help save our planet. This would lead to more fly tipping by ignorant individuals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Do not support any further restriction on availability for the public, fly tipping and dumped waste around the community is bad enough already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Unsure where savings could be made here as the service is already stretched and under pressure at times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good public access to the community recycling centres prevents fly tipping, which the council would have to spend money tidying up.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please don't close or reduce the opening hours of the recycling centres. They are a much-needed service and without them we would see a huge increase in fly-tipping. In my view, it is short-sighted and wrong-headed to cut back these services, as fly-tipping costs more to clear up and blights out country lanes and private ground.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	given that our (ever expanding set) of bins are only emptied on a rotational basis, we really do need to retain access to the recycling centres, allowing decent opening times for people who make work a multitude of different shift patterns to be able to access. Otherwise, as we have already seen, there will be further increase in fly tipping which costs the council a huge amount of money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It is really vital that we have efficient recycling options throughout West Lothian. Indeed, recycling is from an environment point of view will benefit all of us and we all need to play our part by recycling as much as possible. It is important that the council makes changes to ensure that we continue to have recycling options available for all households which are delivered in the most effective way.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling has become a problem because of the lack of facilities opening times. Reducing this provision will see lots more rubbish being dumped. I would suggest that you open the centres all weekend and during specific 'out of office' hours to accommodate people who work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling centres are essential, especially for large families when the council does not provide bulky uplifts free of charge any more and the bin collections are already on a reduced schedule with rotation of bins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Any reduction in the provision in this budget may deliver short term savings, but it will lead to higher costs in the medium to long term with increase in fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Stop introducing new bins, we used to have 3 they were always emptied, now we have 4 and there are constant issues with emptying them - we pay more money now than before, your services are rubbish.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter which determines best practice for household services. The new twin stream service will improve the quality of material recycled and save money on disposal costs
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	You tried mucking about with recycling services and it backfired. Don't make the same mistake again	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are essential. And convenient opening times, not just at the weekend, encourage their use rather than fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centres are a vital service for all communities which need to remain as they are. I'm sure you would agree that when they were on reduced hours and days the service was not suitable. Now they are open every day and at times which suit people with jobs and child care	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	THESE FACILITIES ARE ESSENTIAL TO COMMUNITIES AND PREVENT FLY TIPPING AND SHOULDNT BE CUT ANYMORE	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reducing opening hours will simply result in the type of flytipping we saw during the bin strike, so this needs to be handled very carefully or else you'll end up spending more on clean up work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I see not issues with Waste Services. The recycling centres are well manned and well managed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres need to be readily available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More reduction in staff and opening hours. Council don't even collect glass at the kerbside and want to reduce recycling services. How will you meet the recycling targets!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Glass recycling points are located across WLC
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These facilities are already underfunded, the operating times do not suit working people and there are always queues to access them. Every town should have its own recycling facility. Also, the council should be more areas where recycling bins are provided for cloth, glass etc.. this way only big items should be taken to the large recycling centers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	In the last round of cuts, the decision to close some Recycling Centres was made with the justification that it would allow the remaining centres to be open for longer hours. To now propose cutting the hours for those centres which remain is not justifiable. ; This will lead to an increase in fly-tipping across the authority, which will surely cost the Council more money in the long term, or result in West Lothian residents having to put up with a much reduced standard of living/green spaces.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	WLC's services are already understaffed. Bins aren't emptied as frequently as residents would like. Disposal sites had their hours cut. Volunteer litter pickers are undertaking WLC services. Where else can you cut?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	leave them as they are	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I don't support this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This wouldn't work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is an area that needs more service not less. Just look at the queues at recycling centres. Opening hours should be extended, the alternative of widespread flytipping costs more to clear up in the longrun	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community Recycling Centres provide a vital service to residents, so care should be taken not to reduce current service levels	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Does this mean more bins for households who already have no room for them so leaving them on the pavement causing obstruction to parents, elderly and disabled. Not to mention the waste of money used for "TALKING BINS" what a stupid idea that is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There should be no reduction in Community Recycling Centres services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We are doomed if we apply standard cost cutting methodologies to fighting climate change.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The local tip was closed throughout the covid pandemic. Leading to a massive increase in fly tipping. Can I suggest that you don't strip back an essential service again.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is vague. What will this mean? Over the years there has been less services offered and people are taking responsibility for recycling themselves through access to recycling centres - this would continue to be a necessary service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It is extremely important that focus is given to the environment without compromising public health and safety.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Access to community recycling centres must remain a priority - as already seen, the level of fly tipping in WL is already unacceptable .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not sure how projected savings of £336k can be made where there is still a requirement to review the service provision?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres need to be kept open especially at weekends this will help to combat fly tipping. Also at least 1-2 free uplifts from home per year should be reinstated to help the same thing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service. Therefore, any introduction of a free service would require a corresponding increase in fleet and employees.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More provision of recycling centres should be made to reduce the costly exercise of cleaning up fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I don't know what the answer is here, but I did think reducing the opening hours of all centres was supposed to have saved money already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I do not think that recycling centres are open for long enough. I would be opposed to further reductions in hours of West Lothian's recycling centres.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Any changes / disruption will see an increase in fly tipping which will ultimately increase costs due to clean up etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Again - this is a service that is already NOT FIT FOR PURPOSE! - It's risible that while money is squandered on grandiose 'recycling' initiatives (that seem to benefit mainly the sellers of wheelie bins) the dumps are made inaccessible... bin collections are all over the place, and residents struggle to get rid of large items; THEN you bleat about fly tipping! - NO wonder that happens!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please stop reducing the opening times and making closures. Better opening times for people who work during the day would be beneficial.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Also requires tough action on fly tipping if access to recycling centres is cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Does this mean a reduced opening hours policy?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I doubt if there is any "requirement to review". Nothing has been reviewed more often and it is clear that these facilities are highly valued. There is nothing wrong with the number and location of sites or the opening hours, Any review should focus on staffing levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling Centres are at the front of tackling climate change. Any attempt to reduce staff, reduce hours or close any centres would be an outrage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Essential to avoid fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Savings here are typically illusory because of the impact on incidents such as commercial and domestic fly tipping. The previous attempts to close or reduce recycling hours were illusory. Councils like Angus have an alternative model of service for localised recyclables and centralised non recyclables, which should be benchmarked against West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Need to be open so people can use them, otherwise people are fly-tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Some of these changes have led to more rubbish being dumped by public - bins too small to cope with dome families use - green bins emptied monthly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Have seen people fly-tipping, so these need to be open for people to use	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Should be kept open all the time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The dumps aren't great with a lot of space as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are important as you would get fly tipping otherwise	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reduction in this area has led to more fly-tipping which costs the council more money, how will this improve the availability of recycling centres for the population.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It is crucial these are located close to user populations, extended car journeys to use these rather defeats the point.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please keep the current arrangement for community recycling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste services are vital for the environment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I can understand the idea of charging for garden waste collection but as it is combined it with food waste collection will likely result in most food waste going to landfill. I would find this very unsatisfactory.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Unclear what this will actually entail, but essential that waste and recycling management should not be cut in any way - this will only increase fly tipping and be detrimental to the environment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This service works well at moment and cutting hours at recycling centres would cause problems with more fly tipping and if charges start to be made this would definitely increase fly tipping and add to council costs having to clear up fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Unless bin collection services are improved unclear how reducing hours/staff at recycling centres will benefit the community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	A complete overhaul is needed, you just need to drive along ANY road in West Lothian and see the fly tipping, you should never have removed the 3 free pick ups, even if it means giving it back to the people on benefits it'll be worth it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It's important not to charge people to use recycling centres. It will only increase fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The other thing is, I'm sorry but the refuse workers do not help themselves. For ages they were emptying blue bins with black bags in them, then, with the Green bins all that had to stop but people were still putting black bags into blue bins as they were previously getting emptied. You need to make it clear and concise the instructions for what refuse goes into the proper coloured bin. You also need to emphasise what will cause your bin NOT to be emptied. Reducing the hours that Recycling Centres are open has been absolutely no help at all. The charging for bulky uplift has led to flytipping all over the county. I can walk about my own area and people dump TVs, washing machines etc, as they cannot afford the bulky uplift charge. There are people in our communities who do litter picks voluntarily. Sadly, they are wasting their time as people do not seem able to walk to a bin and put rubbish in it. Why can't we have a glass collection? That would have been more use than those Green Bins. Not everyone has a car.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling services need to remain as the current provision does not support the level of need	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Need to be wary that people will resort to fly tipping, burning waste etc if there are any reductions to staffing/opening times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are already used at maximum capacity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Good recycling services are vital in local areas. Thus will reduce fly tipping and increase general recycling by households	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There is not enough information here to comment tbh. Please don't reduce the waste bin pick ups.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centres are essential and the public need access to them regularly. If not fly tipping etc will continue and West Lothian will just become a dumping ground.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No, you have cut these services enough.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There reductions of hours and restriction of personal van (not work vans) has significantly increased fly tipping which in turn costs more money. Making facilities available for people to recycling themselves would be more efficient.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not everyone can get to them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centres are already less customer friendly, having to drive quite a distance to recycle now, the times are less accessible too. This means less time open?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We need these	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Essential service. Needs to be available when most people can access it freely to reduce fly tipping. Collections are already very expensive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The last time you reduced hours at recycling centres it led to fly tipping which cost the council more	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	What is the cost to the council of fly tipping and would simply allowing more access to council recycling centres not be more cost effective?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Increase in fly tipping so any review should take this in to account	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Take care with this. If the public can't get access to recycling centres easily fly tipping will increase and it is my understanding that fly tipping already costs a lot of money due to the loss of the free pick ups.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: the council has recently purchased mobile CCTV camera which will be deployed in known hotspot areas for fly-tipping. The council is also currently working alongside other local authorities and partner organisations to encourage the Scottish Government to increase our powers to deal with fly-tipping and to increase fines.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Any cuts to services which are there to help halt (or at least lessen) the speed that our world is being affected by global warming is unacceptable. ; We are approaching a one way door. Once we go through that door there os no way back. Surely, we do not want to be party to that.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community Recycling Centres are not run well. Staff should be more prepared to help residents using them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste collection and recycling collections services should not be further reduced. They are already too limited. This is often the only council service that the residents who pay the most council tax actually receive, any reductions to this will cause animosity towards the council from the persons you need to pay for everything. This is the one truly universal service all residents receive and it should be of high quality and frequent.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is crucial to our future and investment needed to maintain and continually improve.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling centres should not change, during COVID 19 there was a limited access to recycling centres and this led to an increase of fly tipping all over the West Lothian area. I would not be in favour of a reduction in the use of recycling centres.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I think that climate change is extremely important and should be a key consideration of the council moving forward, meaning that all decisions should consider the impact on the climate before progressing. Therefore it would be useful to have a climate impact assessment on this proposal. Does this mean closing recycling sites or consolidating to expand specific sites to incorporate additional recycling/reusing capabilities? Will need to be based on need and usage information to establish what can be closed and ensure that fly-tipping doesnt increase as a result.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Priority should be given to collection of waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling Centres would have to reflect the increased usage if a charge is made for the household brown bin. More traffic would be generated which will not help with carbon emissions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It's important to have these centres running.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It would be beneficial if these were actually open and accessible to allow residents to have the opportunity to recycle. At present the hours are not suitable to allow residents the ability to be effective in their recycling	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Savings and service cuts here should be minimised /prioritised for keeping service standard	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We need to increase recycling alongside re-use of existing materials and reduction in use of eg single-use plastics . Community Recycling Centres are essential for members of the public to play their part. There is also a need for bulky uplifts to continue as many gardens are currently used as dumping grounds.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling services have already been severely altered for the customer!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are very important and should remain open. Fly tipping costs the council money and would increase if CRC are closed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No issue with them now why change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More reductions - will we get more bins? My street have regular disruptions already(outwith any striking action) to weekly bin collections which is not acceptable for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres should be open longer to encourage people to use them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	reducing recycling centres is a bad idea as people will end up just dumping it anywhere which will lead to more mess and will need more men to clean it up which is more money	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	better opening and closing times	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	by reducing opening hours, would cause additional waste being left in areas affecting the environment and wildlife which in result will cost more money to address the issue in the future	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not exactly what the statement is implying but community recycling centers should not be reduced or have reduced opening hours. As the variety of waste being produced and number or types of collections being taken changes the need to ensure that rubbish is easily disposed of is increasingly important. The alternative is more fly tipping and eventually risks to public health which will have an impact on public sector spending elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency. Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The refuse service is already weak and unreliable. The community recycling centres are the lifeline that stops fly tipping and are very popular with residents. Restricting access or charging for access will have the inevitable result of fly tipping which will cost more to clean	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency. Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centres need to be open for a decent amount of time as the bin provision for uplift is sometimes inadequate	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Better recycling facilities across all services, along with information would help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling centres are essential to prevent the blight and expense of clearing fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency. Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If you take tips away fly tipping increases, false economy	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	RECYCLING CENTRES ARE A MUST AND I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT SAVES MONEY OVER CLEARING UP FLY TIPPING. LETS KEEP IT.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency. Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Local community recycling centres are needed and must remain open, even if on reduced hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I disagree.....fly-tipping is horrendous....not everyone uses booking service.....free to use at anytime....	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	i think recycling is a good idea but recycling centre are not up to the job of doing this as required	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	From past experience this won't go down well with customers especially if it means reducing opening times or closing some of the CRCs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Key part of council activity needs to be safeguarded	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are extremely essential if the council does not want to have increased fly tipping and general increase in rubbish in the local environment which will incur costs to the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	shorted recycling hours didnt work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	more awareness required to educate people for community recycling centres to help save the environment and no requirement to reduce opening times which will increase dumping of waste will lead more environment issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	i can not see how savings can be made at CRC. I use them regularly and they seem to work well with very few workers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is a vital service since you really are crap at collecting rubbish now so just leave it alone	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Happy to do my bit, but given we are already going to the recycling plant as bins not big enough/strike action etc, what more can you reasonably expect your clients to carry out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Over recent years, wheelie bin size has reduced - ie black bin, which many struggle with.; Recent addition to wheelies, ie green has led to more work on us, the consumer, to clean, sort, dry items.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It's important to have recycling centres open when people want to use them most. Otherwise fly-tipping will increase and cost the council more to clear up.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Care has to be taken when reducing Community Recycling Centres roles as if the opening and closing times are reduced significantly then this may lead to fly tipping which in turn would put a strain on council services and income.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community Recycling centres are always busy from what I can see, and staff there are always busy. Maintaining good opening hours and maintaining good staffing numbers are important in my opinion	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	To make sure fly tipping does not get worse, recycling centres need to be open and available for residents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If you want recycling to work then keep centre's open .The cleansing service is poor enough	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not everyone can get to a waste facility during the day, they work! Need good provision for out of working hours/weekend access or it will all end up in landfill or dumped.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Tried this the last time and it never worked	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We should've been making money out of this instead of trying to make a mediocre saving ,afterall that's why everyone household in west Lothian has 4 bins	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Absolutely no reduction you will end up people dumping rubbish everywhere leading to vermin	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I think that this is one that has to be looked at - you have to make sure that the service is available as people will just dump waste causing infection not to mention the mess that eventually the council will have to clean up - so prevention is actually best	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is a fundamental service and provision should be increased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	They barely open anyway and the hours are awful. Will just fly tip. Much less stress	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency. Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Fly tipping has increased, yet WLC cut back the hours tips are open, only allow certain vehicles in etc and took away the free uplifts, you do this then fly tipping increases and West Lothian turn into a dump, and a dump is what WLC have turned West Lothian into !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency. Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This would need to be considered versus the cost of clearing fly tipping. As was seen during recent bin strikes, the amount of fly tipping increased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I think the community recycling centres are something that needs to be kept open and running as smoothly as possible. The current opening hours from 10am until 6pm 7 days a week is really good because it allows people availability to go when suitable and means no long queues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Numbers of staff who work at recycling centres have already been reduced and opening hours are also shorter. I'm not sure this service can be made more efficient as already it is providing poorer service for people who pay their council tax for services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This sounds like moving recycling centres to "business hours" when, funnily enough, most of us work! ; This will only lead to increased flytipping which costs the council far more than £336,000 a year to clean up!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Restricted hours may result in fly tipping. The charges for bulky uplifts are already high and only allow for 5 items. People on Benefits or on the breadline are finding it difficult to pay these charges and restricting the recycling centres will not alleviate the fly tipping that is currently happening. Opening hours at the recycling centres must allow access for people who work and cannot get there during normal working hours	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Very important initiative and becoming more so.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is usually code for a reduction of opening hours or days and will no doubt result in an increase in fly tipping and the associated costs which come with its implementation. One would like to think that an on site survey, over several days, into the numbers of users would be carried out prior to any decision being made.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	DO NOT CLOSE THE TIPS AGAIN!!!; the amount of fly tipping increase dramatically last time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	CRC services need to be maintained as much as possible. Opening hours need to be as wide as possible with access for vans and trailers to be available on weekends	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please keep recycling centres open for use for people who work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It is difficult to access these and the staff at them refuse to help if there are bulky or heavy items.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Service provisions at the community recycling centres have always been welcomed and would be remis to see this disappear. Maybe re look at the bin structure that is in place as it doesn't seem to be working	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	But at the expense of reduced opening hours? Would that not be counter productive?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	recycling is a nightmare since the deans centre closed - its too busy and stressful at Oakbank	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I think the work that waste services do is fundamental to protecting the built environment. I think that any fundamental change to this service would impact quite heavily on meeting out environment targets and service objectives.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If the council reduces the special uplift. There would be less flytipping and again reduce the cost to clear up the mess	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service. Therefore, any introduction of a free service would require a corresponding increase in fleet and employees.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It is vital that recycling facilities continue to be available to the public or we will see an increase in the current fly tipping levels. Visiting recycling centres in other areas, such as Aberdeen or Perth, shows we are well short of the standards elsewhere. There is much more opportunity to recycle items & opening times better reflect the needs. Linlithgow facility is in the wrong place to support the space required to meet the recycling demands of today. Edge of the town would be a loch more suitable place. The current site could be redeveloped	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I would like to be sure that any proposed efficiencies do not impact on customers ability to access recycling centres as it is vital that the council encourage and support people to reuse, recycle and not to flytip rubbish in order to avoid potential charges.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency. Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	disagree -keep open	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	They can't be stretched anymore.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Service is already limited with reduced staff. Please don't change this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Use of recycling centres should be encouraged by making them easier to access, not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reducing access to community recycling centres has already resulted in an increase in fly tipping, which costs more to deal with. Encouraging people to recycle, and thus giving them the opportunity that these centres provide, are invaluable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Need to be accessible when people are able to go, i.e. don't shut at weekends	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This one is pretty serious. Recycling needs to be vigorously promoted; avoidance of fly tipping etc. Bin collection could be better rationalised possibly, but has to be in a process where people understand and can work with the arrangements. There shouldn't be too many bins, and their frequency of collection should be sensible and sustainable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres being accessible to all - including those with difficult working hours and trades people - is essential to preventing fly tipping in the area, which in turn not only harms the environment but costs the council money in having to remove.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centres in WL are now a joke, the staff are amazing but the reduced opening times and ques to access are ridiculous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I really appreciate having a local recycling centre. When these were closed there was a clear increase of illegal dumping on the roadsides. Reduced hours perhaps, but I think it's worth keeping them open.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	4 bins and constantly getting smaller and picking them up further a further apart , with chunks of times even outside of strike. a full service is not provided to then be told take it to the skip , but you can only get to the skip with a car . 1 if i pay council tax and it fits in my bins requirement , shouldnt have to take it to the skip. and 2 not everyone has a car or drives. stop isolating people from a required service which you are forced to pay for	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This may lead to fly tipping causing more costs l the long term.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	CRC's in West Lothian are an excellent resource. I would be worried reductions in this area will result in more fly tipping etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Will need careful thought ...otherwise dumping will be even more prolific	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	When recycling services were previously reduced/impacted by Covid fly-tipping increased. How will this be addressed if services are further reduced?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling centres should be open earlier and later in the working day, rather than midday weekdays when most people are at work. Local residents who own vans as their only source of transport should be allowed to make use of services at weekends.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The waste has already been stripped back to the bare essentials	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We must ensure we are becoming more eco friendly and not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Maybe have a mobile recycling service? ; Community recycling centres are a must to reduce littering and fly-tipping. ; If less available - the recycling level will reduce.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are vital. Currently household waste is not satisfactory. Too many bins too many rules. Recycling centres allow the rubbish to go as the household bins are too small and rubbish is accumulating	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Really? I don't think these can be reduced or condensed further (more fly tipping evident and may be a consequence) and if anything need to be added to eg food bins when bin collections don't pick up brown bins (3 consecutive collections (this 6 weeks of waste - an example from my area).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	this should not be done as it will just encourage more fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste services already in difficulty.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Keep it as it is in terms of operating hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please don't reduce any budget regarding recycling centres and the environment. WLC is already struggling with litter and fly tipping. The overall environment/state of roads/roundabouts is poor.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Make it more accessible! More sites perhaps !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I hope this means recycling centres will be open more rather than the other way around.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are important to the community. With certain bin services happening fortnightly or monthly they are needed. I have visited one many times and staff are always helpful, friendly and make sure Recycling is done properly by the public.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	They are needed more than ever stops fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	DO NOT REDUCE COMMUNITY RECYCLING FACILITIES OR OPENING TIMES - that is the easiest way to make budget savings as I have seen time & resources used to clear fly tipping and they far outweigh and budget savings	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Hopefully what ever is dome to the above does not increase fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Current service is very poor . Need to look service standard rather than savings target	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	A lot of people rely on the recycling centre unless you are going to make it cheaper and more affordable for skips to be placed in streets for people to get rid of their unwanted items.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Oak bank excellent facility, essential to prevent fly tipping and busy at all times, needs maintained	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Open the services for times that people want to use them - consultation to determine hours. Booking online not effective lots of fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If you reduce waste services, you will increase fly tipping. West Lothian will start to resemble North Lanarkshire. Help keep our region beautiful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Any cuts to recycling centres will lead to increased fly-tipping and therefore clean-up costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I agree that the service at the recycling centres should be effective and efficient, but it is important to consider unintended consequences of any proposed changes so that costs are not just displaced elsewhere eg to dealing with an increase in fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If waste collection services are reduced this will cause more fly tipping with additional costs for removal and keep all eork in house to maintain flexibility within departments	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reduced service here could result in dumping of rubbish.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	In order to ensure our surrounding areas, remain waste free it is so important that there is regular and convenient access to recycling centres. I appreciate reduction in times n=may help but if many centres were to close and households were expected to pay for waste uplift, I would be concerned that this would result in a major issue with fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community Recycling Centres do fantastic work and this should not be impacted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The Recycling Centres provide a good service for the community. If the service is reduced, the council needs to be careful that the practice of fly-tipping doesn't take off again, which just actually ends up costing more to deal with.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Bin collections should all be included in our council tax, we should not be asked to pay an additional amount for bin uplifts...including the brown bin, this should always be included in council tax.; Altering the opening times of the recycling centres to allow a reduction may work, we all use these fairly regularly but not everyday so can work around opening times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centre at Oakbank is very efficient and no need for change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No - This seems like a core service. Educing opportunities to dump leagally can only have one cnsquence - more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Very difficult to comment without more detail though community recycling centres do need to be open when people can actually go to them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These centres are more closed than open; They don't open at times that suit all; The staff need to be more helpful and not so judgmental ; Too many of them wanting uk stand about with their hands in their pockets	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Partially agree. We need to avoid changes that increase fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The cost of recycling has made more incidents of fly tipping and impacted on all communities, a false economy. We want to encourage this to make it easier to access.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These are essential to stop fly tipping as the bins allocated are not big enough	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	What more cuts? 🗑️🗑️🗑️	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I find the Community Recycling Centre very effective and would regret any reduction in service or opening hours.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Vital service however does this mean shorter opening hours	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There is a risk that reduction in service here will result in more fly tipping and burden on home owners. Would need go see mode details	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I might be prepared to pay for garden waste collection but I would need to know the cost first before deciding. ; But what would happen to the food waste that currently is collected with it if some people don't choose to pay? How would their food waste be collected? Leaving this uncollected is a health hazard. It's difficult to see how a revised collection service makes economic sense after all the money the Council has spent recently on issuing new bins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Presumably you mean reducing opening hours. This will have an environmental impact by increasing fly tipping. The recent bin strike showed how that would look.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Any reduction in these services will only result in more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No service reduction is acceptable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If the refuse collection system - and the access to recycling facilities - is reduced there will be far more instances of fly-tipping. This will then mean far more extra resource to clean up the fly-tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I feel this service has already been cut enough and do not understand how it can be cut anymore!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Keep all recycling centres they are needed and there is not that many of them in west-lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are required	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please don't reduce access to the recycle centres so that fly tipping will get worse than it already is!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Home recycling services such as weekly bin collections must not be reduced any further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Home recycling services such as weekly bin collections must not be reduced any further	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Community recycling centres must remain open. Kerbside recycling does not offer glass or electronics nor is it frequent enough to take away all waste produced. ; How on earth will recycling targets be met if opportunities & places to recycle responsibly are removed. ; This surely flies in the face of the Climate emergency that the Scottish government declared.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Do not close these as it will increase fly tipping and carbon foot print for travel to other locations	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Already reduced to bare minimum	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	In current climate do not think we need to be focussing on this. More important people can provide for themselves and their families	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Are the streets and grass verges not full enough yet of the bulky uplifts you no longer supply	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Some of the recycling centres are run so efficiently.; There needs to be a good provision of services otherwise there will be an increase in fly tipping which will cost to clear up.; I'd like to see a doorstep collection of glass.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If you really want to encourage more recycling then extend the hours of recycling centres. Getting rid of the bulky uplift charge would cut down on fly tipping. ; The Joint Forum made a Participatory Request on Waste Services that was denied. You really have to consult more with communities instead of imposing changes if you want more buy in. Don't be seen as imposing penalties but encourage community initiatives to get people recycling more. ; Enforcement against companies that are not recycling or dumping should be stepped up.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Do we want fly tipping all over the place again That is what will happen if the centres are not available for the community ; This costs more to remove and is an eye sore and it may endanger lives	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Need to be careful as this can lead to more fly-tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No additional costs for residents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are a great idea, so if they can be improved without reducing opening hours then fine.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Additional services to be provided at centres, to take them away from being referred to as the "Dump" or the "Skip" and make them the "Re-Use" and "Re-Purposing" centre. Information boards on the amount of re-cycling being done, how re-usable items are being refurbished and reused by voluntary groups and donated to those in need. Large "flow chart" type board showing how to make use of the centres and how to improve or take some of your waste directly to organisations that can make use of it!; ; MAKE HASTE DO NOT WASTE	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	'Revised' service standards should not lead to an increase in illegal dumping throughout our beautiful county.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If recycling centre hours reduced or costs put in place there is then the worry that people will fly tip making our areas untidy and the risk of rodents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Keep these recycling centres open as much as possible they provide an excellent service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Opening hours need to prioritise weekends.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Linlithgow Recycling Centre is a well used facility and is an essential element of the waste services in the local area. It must not be closed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Easy target. This is bound to result in increased waste gathering in people's homes and gardens and also an increase in fly tipping. A false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Keep this open 7 days a week. As the rubbish can pile up with smaller bins and residents dont always have the space for multiple of the coloured bins. The current hours are perfect. Possible community skips once a month could help in deprivation areas where getting rubbish moved could be tricky.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	the recycling centres are an essential facility and closing them would lead to more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste Services - recycling centres are in high demand and should remain open	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please do not close the recycling centres. This only leads to fly tipping which costs the council to clear up. Additional recycling centres allow to reduce and reuse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste services must be addressed and maintained for the future	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Vital that there are freely available community recycling centres	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres are already over-crowded at peak times due to the last rationalisation. An on-line indication of peak times would help balance demand, I think, across the full opening hours, but any further reduction in availability of these services is likely to lead to unwanted anti-social behaviours increasing, such as fly-tipping. I don't believe that this saving should be implemented.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	not enough days where they pick up the blue, grey, green bin	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Stay open for longer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no charge for bulky uplifts or a better charge	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service. Therefore, any introduction of a free service would require a corresponding increase in fleet and employees.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More hours, recycle centres trailer options if not boot	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Does this mean three week bin turnaround	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	as there is no details what this actually means in reality have no comment to make - other than I assume it will be a reduction in service	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	That is a generic statement - more detail would be required to make informed comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	With no detail as to what this would entail it is difficult to comment. These are key services to a lot of people and any change to service times should be carefully considered.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail to comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Very vague - how would the service provision be reviewed? Would this result in reduced opening hours, reduced access, reduced staffing? Only with this information is the public able to take an informed view on the proposed changes.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail to comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	What does this mean?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not totally sure what this means. Will they be shut more?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Not enough detail provided to comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This has too little information to enable anyone to comment! It does not explain at all what the proposal is.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Think you should embellish on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	How would this look in practice?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	A permit system would identify resident who have paid for the garden waste scheme. The bin would also still be used for food for all residents including those who do not wish to participate in the scheme
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Where is this saving coming from? Are you given £336, 000 for completing a review?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Nothing to note	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This is a service which seems to be constantly under review, under review and under review again - no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Details? It is not clear what the changes would be so it is impossible to comment on whether or not this is a good plan.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The nature of proposed measures needs to be publicised before opinions can be given.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Doesn't make clear what changes are under consideration.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	What is being suggested here?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no involvement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no commentthe	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No Comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Nothing to note	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I don't know enough about this to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	whatever you do it will be wrong I'm afraid	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Without knowing the result of the review cannot comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Also stop changing the bin colour uses and buying talking bins that cost £4k each. Just more wasteful ideas.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	what is this? How can anyone answer this without knowing what the detail is ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	dont drive so no use to me	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Need more detail.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	You have cut these services, and yet increased council tax?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The current services appear to be efficient	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	How can we comment on this when no example is given on what the saving will impact?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	So, you're going to review the processes and save yourselves £336k AND make the service more efficient? How?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	What are you going to change to make the saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This was already done in previous consultation, so what changed and does this mean the services will be unavailable for more hours.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Essential to recycle and reduce energy consumption.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Recycling: the council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Charter for Household Recycling which lays out national guidance for the provision of waste services. The council seek through contracts to ensure that maximum material is recycled but this relies on the quality of the material being to a satisfactory standard.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	what will you do?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	How? Will this site be open more hours?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No views	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not enough information to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I have just checked and i am on 32% complete. I am losing the energy and will to comment on something that has given me no information to go on, instead just filling each space with words that are utterly meaningless in this context. 'Effective and efficient' don't mean a thing if you don't explain how this will be done.; I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More information would be needed for any comments to be made	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Again, no information on how this will be achieved.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Again, how do you plan to achieve this, no details supplied, or is this whole Exercise just a stunt so the Council can say that their residents were consulted.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comments.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No comment as i dont go to the recycling centres, but i think people would go and if they are not there or they are closed a lot this might encourage people to fly tip and that is already happening with a load being dumped on the back road to Bathgate.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	On e again no detail therefore unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Bin men very helpful	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Assume this will relate to closures on specific days etc.? No particular views on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Service at recycling centres is currently very good.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As long as there is provision as this then leads to irresponsible people fly tipping and not recycling which is a must!	4. The council is already doing this.	Proposal maintains provision of CRC sites
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I support more efficient kerbside recycling to reduce the need for going to community recycling centres.	4. The council is already doing this.	Council is developing kerbside collection improvements
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste collections must be considered in tandem with these measures, many households have now a skinny general waste bin which is not enough for a larger household, returning to a larger general waste bin would allow for more waste to be collected under standard collections and less reliance on recycling centres. Fees could also be applied for bulkier items example white goods could be chargeable at a nominal fee of £5 which would generate some additional income.	4. The council is already doing this.	Capacity in the general waste bin in West Lothian is broadly comparable with other local authorities who may have a larger bin, but this will be collected less often than the 2 weekly service in West Lothian. Where a request for a larger bin is made due to household size, an assessment is carried out which may provide additional capacity where justified.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling is a must and so many families do not follow this and it costs the council more money every year. In general people need to be educated on how to recycle and given extra support.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Helping the environment and climate is essential	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Hopefully not much money is spent on sending recycled items to land fill in this or other countries.	4. The council is already doing this.	All council recycling contracts comply with relevant best practice.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Stop buying useless bins then deciding that they are not fit for use, and concentrate on collecting rubbish properly.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Wasting public monies buying more useless bins... we pay the council to collect the rubbish.... it now the time to actually do what we pay for.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Why doesn't council recycle glass and make money from selling it.	4. The council is already doing this.	Glass bins are in place across West Lothian.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	High level statement with little content. What are the Council's priorities?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has 8 priorities for West Lothian that were set in consultation with the public. These are available on the council website.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste services vital to clean communities.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling is a priority for climate change	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Why don't you collect and recycle glass (maybe in the new green bin?)	4. The council is already doing this.	Glass recycling points exist across West Lothian
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please pass on thanks for Livingston Oakbank facility, which is run so well and always find it easy to use	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There needs to be more recycling in West lothian. ; Schools should be provided with large recycling bins for paper and plastic metal etc.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Would be easier if the layouts were better and stuff actually helped. Flexible opening hours would reduce flu tipping	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling is very hard at the moment. Nothing for glass	4. The council is already doing this.	Glass recycling points are placed across WLC
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Prioritise recycling services	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There seems to be a policy of adding more but no education or support. More bins but why do we need them. Not what you put in them, what happens to our waste and why is our input important.	4. The council is already doing this.	Education and engagement officers can advise or support if requested
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These centres are a vital service. As well as meeting council priorities, let's remember the needs of WL residents.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I do hope the current high standard at the recycling centres is maintained.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More glass bottle banks, I have none in my town therefore they go in bin.; I'm not going to travel to livi from home at my cost and time when my council tax goes up and get less for money	4. The council is already doing this.	If it is felt there is a lack of glass banks in your area, contact the service and an assessment can be carried out to see if this has been considered or if there is a suitable location
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling should be further encouraged and protection of our natural environment protected.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The community recycling centres work well. The waste collection /kerb side collection is more in need of attention. Often late or no pick ups. Brown and green, or grey and blue bins being emptied on the same day into the same lorry!!! Where is the point in us having 4 bins at home!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It seems at times that it would be easier to join a secret sect than it is to take waste to amenity sites (example - the requirement in my council area to 'book online' rather than just pitch up with a bootful of stuff when out and about anyway). Councils need to make it easier and less hassle for residents to dispose of waste in a legal fashion, rather than feed the current plague of fly-tipping.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Resident engagement!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I have a small van for personal use and as such cannot access recycling facilities without pre-planning, my neighbour has a huge people carrier, runs a small garden business and goes to centre weekly - Go figure - maybe use number plate recognition allow a small number of visits then charge through council tax.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is investigating ways to allow easier access whilst balancing the need to prevent unauthorised business use
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Your staff at the recycling centres (participate Oakbank) are absolutely amazing please safeguard their jobs and speak with them. I spoke with one who said he had lots of cost saving ideas. Please speak with the people on the ground doing the work, they are your invaluable resource.	4. The council is already doing this.	Staff can contribute to the consultation and have opportunities to raise improvement ideas with their supervisor/ manager.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Should be doing checks on peoples bins, people are not recycling properly	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Proposal on how these savings would be made is not clear. I suggest this should be an area of investment given the longer term impact on the environment e.g increase soft plastics recycling options beyond the current processes.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres should be opened long enough through out the week in order that the public can recycle and therefore reduce the amount of fly tipping around the county.	4. The council is already doing this.	Fly tipping is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The staff at recycling and waste depots need to be trained to help people so that you can meet your targets. Unhelpful staff just mean that public just throw everything in together instead of separating out.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Address recycling across west lothian as a whole! Single use plastic cutlery in schools?? They don't even get recycled. All rubbish bags, no matter what recycling labled box they are in all gets tossed into one place. Friday lunches have removed plastic water bottles but replaced with cartons of water. How about just removing the water altogether.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Council wastes a lot of money we should be making money from recycling centres by reselling the scrap etc - any left overs on your building sites should be put into storage not the skip - checking suppliers and always looking for a better deal etc	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	more awareness require to educate people and more recycling	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	more awareness required to educate people on recycling. Previously the recycling services were opened for shorter hours but this didnt work as people were dumping rubbish causing more man hours	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	ore awareness required to educate people on more recycling	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	more awareness acquired to educate people. the shorter opening times didn't work	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	more awareness required	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	more awareness to educate people.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More awareness required to educate people and more recycling	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This needs improved Council wide. Glass recycling should be via collection.	4. The council is already doing this.	Recycling: the Scottish Government will be introducing a deposit return scheme in 2023 that will reduce the amount of drink containers (glass, cans and plastic) that make it into the waste stream.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Open them to vans to stop fly tipping.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council have a booking system for vans as long as the material is household waste. Non household and business waste should be managed via a business waste disposal point.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Do not make it so difficult for people to recycle and they would do it more. Again, staffing in these recycling centres is laughable. There is always several staff, mostly unwilling to help and on 3 separate occasions when I myself have gone to a recycling centre with a full load of cardboard, one of scrap wood and another of material and some metal I was told to put EVERYTHING into general waste. How is that helping?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. CRC sites are staffed by 2 members of staff, but there may be occasions where other members of staff are on site for other reasons. Material in the general waste skip is still processed to extract recycle, however it is always better for material to be placed in the skip for that specific material. These could have been full on the days in question.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Cancel contracts with juice companies to remove single use plastic from school estates.	4. The council is already doing this.	We only serve water, flavoured water or milk in schools
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Educating the public to properly manage THEIR waste would increase the efficiency of the Recycling Centres. Too many see it as the Council's problem.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centre in Linlithgow is busy and widely used.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Should also meet national recycling priorities and best practice.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Need to look carefully at the big services ie bin contracts with staff, unbelievable waste on salaries the way staff are managed, paid for not working!	4. The council is already doing this.	The performance of waste operatives is subject to regular monitoring and review.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Is the council making use of the state-of-the-art private recycling centre at Levenseat?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Meeting Council priorities. That speaks volumes it should be what is required as a service to the public.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	environment challenges must be addressed while still taking into account the travel requirements of the public	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Should have to pay for a bulky	4. The council is already doing this.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	How many new bins and changes to recycling etc has there been in recent years. How much money has been wasted eg food bins.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Stop wasting money on more bins.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Waste Services are provided in accordance with Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The amount spent on bins that people don't always use is a joke! The money would have been better spent else where! Lasers can separate rubbish! The amount of fly tipping in the area is costing more than what the free uplift services would have cost	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Waste Services are provided in accordance with Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As per earlier comment - before you introduce new bins (a 'great' strategy by the Greens) ensure you have the manpower including plan v cover for existing bins. We used to have 2 then 3 bins all worked well. Now we are drowning in bins which are not emotions- multiple occasions.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter which determines best practice for household services. The new twin stream service will improve the quality of material recycled and save money on disposal costs
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The environment is seriously neglected. Changes must be made but council needs to step up in the nonsense way we all have multiple tiny bins leading to tipping .	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter which determines best practice for household services. The new twin stream service will improve the quality of material recycled and save money on disposal costs

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling of plastics is a big lie. Stop perpetuating the lie.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The current waste service and recycling strategy has seen huge amounts of wasted investment with poor planning and innovation. I do not see an improvement in this area being possible other than going back to the very basic of service provision. Too many of these services now rely on the resident/customer fulfilling the commitment with not a lot of ROI from the service provider.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council has sought to align waste strategy with the Scottish Government Household Recycling strategy which is seeking to standardise, as far as possible, services across Scotland. The recent roll out of twin stream in West Lothian will see focus switch to the quality of material. Quality is driven by the ability of the processors to recycle material in an affordable and cost effective way. As such, residents will have a major part to play in separating material into the correct bin
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Is it not the case that this saving will do nothing but reclaim the £5,000 per eco friendly bins which have been placed throughout the region	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Please, no more bins. No more bins	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Would have saved money if stopped changing bins.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Make these self service	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. To ensure the Recycling Centres are safe for the public to use they require to be staffed by trained operatives.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Glass recycling uplift should be a doorstep collection . Many don't recycle because they won't drive to glass bank or do not have the option to do so	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Bins don't get emptied when they are supposed to. Bigger grey bins	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As I have already stated I already have issues with this service. I am old enough to remember the bins were collected from the Garden I now have to move the bins 300yards plus up the street or they	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ive noticed an increase in this (fly tipping) since the charges were changed previously for bulky uplifts, and the number of items to be collected were drastically reduced. I felt the opportunity we had previously to have one or two free uplifts a year meant that there was less likelihood of fly tipping. I hope that the current costs of clearing up fly tipping have been weighed up against the cost of providing a free uplift twice per year for each household, and/or that robust effort are made to find and charge the people who fly tip for the costs incurred.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reduce opening times for waste services depots. Promote home uplifts for a fee. Offer bin cleaning services again for a fee.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Bring back the weekly food waste small bin as the big brown bin emptied less often with food waste seems to be causing flies everywhere and stinks especially on warmer dayweather, maybe something to do with this. You need a mask to go to your bin!	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council is a signatory to the Scottish Government Household Recycling Charter which determines best practice for household services. The new twin stream service will improve the quality of material recycled and save money on disposal costs
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The council should install a charge system at each recycle center to the value of £3 pounds, for cars and small vans, but not commercial vans, which is paid into a typical parking collecting point, which means the operatives are not handling money.; i don't see this being an issue and would generate some revenue, this may increase fly tipping but i think it's worth a trial.; as i personally don't think the general public would have an issue with this payment. and with the amount of traffic that use this facility it would exceed £336.000	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Id suggest community skips being available in certain areas at certain times and emptied regularly .	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Self employed people aren't aloud into the recycling centres with goods, do you charge them to dispose of jobs material, this could be a way to get money again as it's forced other to hire skips for cheaper	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Business have a responsibility to dispose of their waste. Recycling centres are for household use only

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Required due to the nonsense that is the bin collection service. Bring back larger grey bins and provide large blue and green bins then this may be an option	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	My experience is that I often need to visit the recycling centres to bring bag waste (nirmal household trash). We live with 5 people in a house and we only get one small grey bin, which fills up in less than a week, even with proper sseparation of trash. I suggest to give large house holds a larger bin or a second small bin by default, which will reduce the need to visit the Tip for household trash.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Is there any chance of re-opening the Re-cycling centre in Deans? But may I say how helpful the staff are at our nearest one in Blackburn	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Open tips unmanned. Let people put their rubbish in at times that suit. Reduce fly tipping	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	the bulky uplift tax they should not be charging for that	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service. Therefore, any introduction of a free service would require a corresponding increase in fleet and employees.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	No charge for bulk uplift	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service. Therefore, any introduction of a free service would require a corresponding increase in fleet and employees.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	free collections of bulk items as paying council tax already	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service. Therefore, any introduction of a free service would require a corresponding increase in fleet and employees.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	you should not have to pay for bulk uplifts after paying council tax	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service. Therefore, any introduction of a free service would require a corresponding increase in fleet and employees.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Privatise the bin service. The guys currently do a (redacted) job and aren't worth what they get paid.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	could outsourcing waste services be cheaper?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	savings seem low for this area. could outsourcing waste services be cheaper?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Put back free removals saves money on fly tipping throughout the place	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If you brought back one free uplift per year (not three as previously), you would save a lot of man hours on the retrieval and clean up of fly tips. These have increased so much since the free provision was scrapped which will have cost a lot more in the long run.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Bulky uplift: this service was removed as a free service due to cost constraints and operationally adjusted to cope with the demand of a charged service. Therefore, any introduction of a free service would require a corresponding increase in fleet and employees.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The saving needs to go further than just opening hours - the council has far too many sites for such a compact geographical location. Other councils only have two sites. The council needs to reduce its asset base and that should include CRC sites as a priority.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Some LA's in England also have Re-use hubs at their recycling centres, where items are re-sold. This would help to reduce waste and could be an income generation measure...	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Whilst this is a positive suggestion the contractual arrangements and issues of liability make this a highly problematic initiative. The council do, however support and encourage third party refuse organisations.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Supermarkets and large employers could help manage this aspect of what is now every day life - which councillor or official has the bravery and foresight to kick start the initiative?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Longer opening hours would be good. Knowing that recycling is actually getting done would be great. Appreciate the 4 bins we now have but still don't think You are recycling all you should be. Too much going to landfill. Would be good to have areas for public to leave things in good repair for others to take such as children's toy, clothes, cardboard boxes (perfectly good ones being sent for recycling when the could be reused. Plant pots etc...	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	These are areas that are considered in line with the Household Recycling Charter
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Better recycling efficient methods is a must.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling centre is not fit for purpose, a larger more, more safer accessible area should be considered. Deans was a better choice than oak bank where it causes road congestion when busy! This service is vital to keeping the community tidy, remove any of these services and the streets will be clogged with items that could have safely been recycled.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Council CRC provision is under constant review.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Since the pandemic the community recycling centres have not been accepting liquid wastes e.g. old diy materials. I had to clear the family home due to a parent going into care and cannot find anywhere to take a range of this type of waste. I have been told informally that people are just wrapping it in black bags and putting it in the landfill skip but this does not seem appropriate. Please fix this. Continued storage in my garage is a fire hazard.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We need more and better recycling options.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There are no facilities for people who are unable to get to CRCs. This unfairly impacts the disabled and low income families who often don't drive. We need free bulky uplift for vulnerable groups.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Since people who use the Community recycling centres usually have access to their own transport, do we need so many? Do we, for example, need both Blackburn and Whitburn? My nearest recycling centre is Whitburn - but I could travel a bit further to another one if I had to. Not too far though as then people will start more fly-tipping.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Make the bin men put the bins back to the correct house, I've lost several bins as other take them and I have to order them. Maybe save some by doing that.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Love the efficiency of the Blackburn recycling centre, others could follow their example.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Dry recycling bins are never full before they are uplifted.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Any closure of tips will surely increase fly tipping - the appointment system that Edinburgh council use that came out during covid and that they have kept works well - means the council know how many staff to have in place and that when demand is less the staff could be redeployed	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment an appointment system is being investigated
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Perhaps review whether opening later and staying open until 7 or 8pm would be better during the week.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Either shut a couple of sites and build a big new one so were down to 4 sites or cut management structures there.s your savings with out cutting sites	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Huge queues as it is, reducing staff will make it worse, why not close on the quiet days instead.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Change the opening times of the recycling centres to make it more accessible for people who work - look at busy spots and quiet spots during the week and adjust opening and closing times accordingly to reduce costs. There is no point in workers sitting waiting on the busy periods when they could be reallocated to somewhere else for the "quiet hours" to increase council productivity.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Have these centres only open 2 days on weekdays and all weekend.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	see previous comment; - waste centres need to be realigned to different working patterns, as well as collection services	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It cannot be a licence to print money, but instead needs to separately identify the need to deliver efficiently heated homes to council tenants, encourage local food miles eating solutions for the least advantaged in their bailiwick, encourage climate change friendly local transport solutions, and encourage waste reduction by making it easier for households to reduce, reuse and recycle. A major component of all this lies in the education of our people, to help them make the right choice, and to make the right choice the most affordable choice. Where the most affordable choice route is not (yet) available, we need to make the right choice free for those on benefits.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	close ones that are not popular. Linlithgow is dead and other councils only have a tiny number of centres that are open less. Why can't WL just get on with it and make this decision. Five in WL is a disgraceful amount to have	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Perhaps consider reducing the hours the waste service recycling centres are open to weekends only.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Charge £1 per user, per visit for using a recycling centre at the weekend.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Charge users for recycling potentially toxic or hazardous waste, such as batteries. Charge charities a nominal fee for any items that you currently donate to them, such as bicycles.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I think the recycling centres work well. Have you thought of unmanned locations more widely dispersed? Initial capital outlay but lower maintenance costs. This is how they do it in Portugal.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If there could be more organic recycling opportunities such as for food contaminated card ie pizza boxes/fast food boxes a lot of landfill waste could be further reduced and the capacity in the brown bin would be used more effectively. I would also support warnings followed by fines for people who consistently put contained waste into the blue bin.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	If you are reducing the hours of linlithgow I would suggest it should be open ,1 weekday, all weekend, and at least one evening til 7pm.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Part time opening on days/times of customer requirements/usage	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Look at an option in council refuse centres for a second hand/used section where people put in a donation and take unwanted items as many things I have seen in general waste sections of centres is only in need of a new owner or an upcycle. Obviously exclude electrical items for health and safety and put a time limit on donations to keep flow of stock.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Electric/Hybrid waste vehicles...	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly review fleet requirements and utilisation to ensure best value and that operational needs are met.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Again why cut services? Why not offer a "pay on entry" model for commercial vehicles and generate revenue?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Perhaps reducing opening hours would make a saving, maybe a later start during the working week, but being open at weekends would be best.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I recently took a bag of plastics from my over-flowing green bin to Oakbank Recycling Centre and was very diheartened when I was asked to place it in the bag waste skip. I really hope that decisions are carefully thought through and have a positive impact on the community and environment.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	These could be self-service.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I assume these words mean they are shutting more! If required have them open during the week from 4-7pm which suits residents.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There are too many recycling sites for such a small council area - close one or two down and maintain the hours at the others in line with peak demand times	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	You need to start fining residents who misuse their bins and constantly put the wrong items in them. The recycling service is a very good service and must continue.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I think venues that are not well used should be closed or closed when they are not well used. Customers impact is minimal and opening times should reflect customer demand.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Have the ability to borrow a box to bring garden waste to the CRC with a refundable deposit for the box.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Have the ability to borrow a box to bring garden waste to the CRC with a refundable deposit for the box.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Probably could close them 2 days a week open 3 days during week and always at weekends	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Flexible working to support communities again could help	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	We already find that our bins are not collected frequently enough. Recycling centres could potentially reduce their opening hours.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	close them where they aren't used enough. WL does not need five CRCs when others have far less and are open part time.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Look at all council food provision and record where it comes from and what is waste and where the waste ends up as food waste has a massive environmental impact one of the largest. It will soon be mandatory to do so.; Also it is good practice from any outbreaks ecology etc.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Stop spending fortunes on NEW CCTV at our local recycling centres whereas current CCTV security is ample and paying contractors mega bucks for servicing & repairs to update and maintain these units for starters, staff say the councils money is being spent in the wrong areas at our 5 HWRC centres.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to assets, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain assets required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise assets.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste services should be more accessible for working people, closing these services early doesnt help working people, 1 night late per week, or a variety of different hours would be more beneficial.; ; Actual recycling would be good too.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Reduce recycling center opening times - they seem to be open a lot.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	You could review the peak times on these centres and open them only within these hours, allowing only people who've booked entry within these times.; ; Or consolidate them down and use the busiest ones.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This needs to be revised. People can't understand why the WLC lorries put blank bins and blue bins in the same lorry.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration. This may happen if the blue bin is contaminated and is being emptied to allow the resident to recycle properly.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I don't think the recycling centres need to be open 7 days a week.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	In the waste operations section of the council there are far too many charge hands and supervisors , there are around 8-10 people supposedly busy doing the work that used to be done by 2 supervisors. Operational services can basically run itself with the right crews on the trucks. Drivers could act as chargehands for their own crew and take on a small amount of extra duties this would reduce the need for so many charge hands and supervisors that are there now.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	close 2 of the CRCs. The first one I would close is Linlithgow that is dead. There is no justification for this place to be kept open. ; ; Look at Falkirk - it's only got two and they are both part time. Why is WL got all these CRCs open? Get them part time, or close them. You can't go on with 5 all open 7 days a week.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The recycling is an important way to avoid land waste. These centres could also provide an area where items could be offered to others to reuse.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More needs to be done. We need to be more circular in our economy. Start in the schools - spend money on education - new bins are urgently needed to cut landfill from schools.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Broxburn staff spend a lot of time sitting around so perhaps reorganisation of staffing across sites.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Other authorities have a low charge for collecting garden waste, Could this be an option?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Open hours when most used, evenings and weekend suit most working residents	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Educational settings (No recycling brown bins, Plastic and paper together) - Not a good example for environmental and Climate change improvement.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Our village doesn't even have a bottle bank...	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Bottle banks: the location and condition of bottle banks in the community are carefully considered but are also regularly reviewed using feedback from the public and our staff to ensure that they continue to be suitable and accessible.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centres can actually feel a bit intimidating - and confusing - when trying to work out/see what goes where. Staff aren't always visible or helpful. at times I have had to knock on their wee office to ask for help and is hit or miss as to whether I get a friendly response or just an abrupt reply.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	4A Create two new super recycling and reuse centres in the east and the west of the district with great access and much more space better separation of materials and a reuse covered facility. Retain Linlithgow to service the north.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Do any of the schools recycle? ; ; Public should be told/shown a short film regarding what happens to the waste and how it is managed	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Could a third sector social enterprise model be looked at to tackle subject such as fly-tipping. Supporting CDTs or other large third sector organisations to take this on.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Consider opening in the evening so people who work can utilise away from the weekends	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Since the pandemic there has been no separation for recycling at our local centres. Blackburn & whitburn.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I can't recycle plastic properly from old TVs and the glass from the display. There are many TVs which are old or have cracked screens and I keep spare parts from them. But metal goes to the recycling centre, and the problem is still with the plastic to recycle and this display/screen. Maybe we could do something about it? Most of the time, plastic is ABS.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Is recycled rubbish from schools actually recycled? I was in a school and all the rubbish bags were piled up together. Be more like Denmark please.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	the Community Recycling Centres are essential and are well used, if a study was carried out and if any are not busy on certain days could these be closed on these days and staff deployed to another area, it may be that all centres are closed one day a week (different day) and the staff work over all centres to reduce headcount	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	When wheelie bins are emptied, anything that falls from the bins is left on the road. The cleaning operatives do not bend their backs to retrieve the fallen items and lately there doesn't seem to be other cleaning operatives coming around soon after they do the tidy up. In 2006 the council won council of the year, Goodness knows how with the slapdash attitude of some of the staff out in the community. From the chief exec downwards, the staff must be encouraged to think that they are working for the good of the community and whether they are binmen, street cleaner, office staff or councillors, pride in WL needs a boost.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I understand the need to review service provision, but please don't fully close any of the recycling centres we currently have in West Lothian. I would support measures such as opening the different centres 2-3 days a week on rotation if this would deliver the necessary efficiencies.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	again like fma service we can only cut so much from this service. I saw an office girl over the winter, due to staff sickness etc, emptying household bins with a driver driving the waste vehicle this reflects where they are at by way of staffing levels.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	they are not only doing a (redacted) poor job of only recycling what's essentially irreparable they're doing even worse at educating people to only replace what can't be fixed and don't do diy for stupid vanity reasons. did you know someone's fly tipped a combi boiler beside the tip at oakbank? 9 oct 2022.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Three/four guys sitting in the middle of Broxburn recycling centre doing NOTHING but talking to each other is a complete waste of money don't see why it needs more than two people maximum	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	CRC sites have two staff per shift. Other community-based staff may use the facilities at CRC sites to take their break.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Recycling centre at oakbank is a total farce. Not enough monitoring of what's going on each skip so what's the point. During Covid it was anything and everything going into one skip.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	There were revised arrangements in place during COVID to maintain social distancing and protect public health. These have since been removed.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Bins not always emptied	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This needs to be improved.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Climate change is a hoax made up by the elites and orchestrated by the puppet masters in government and councils now	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Need refuse collectors to stop going on strike. Take the pay for collecting rubbish and get on with it.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It is important to inform and educate people about what cost-saving means to them clearly. It is essential for people to know what's changing and how that can affect the current process. The last thing you want is where people are frustrated, and the recycling targets are not achieved as the rules are disregarded.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I am sure the council would wish to reduce the level of fly tipping, therefore I was dismayed to discover that booking a bulky uplift online was closed due to Maintenance issues" (28/10/22). As this service entails a further fee of £35 in addition to the council tax paid by each resident, why is it now in available?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Halo xxxxx xxxxxx	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Rat investigation is increasing and causing concerns. Is this because waste is not getting collected frequently enough?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It would make us hosting COP last year a farce.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	All talk, COP26 etc	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Get the supermarkets to take responsibility for recycling - they have pushed the packaging agenda for years now and should start paying back.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Householders should be encouraged to reduce their waste and excessive consumption by higher penalties for misuse of recycling bins and charges for council dumps.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Could we have more recycling facilities such as book banks at supermarkets, so common items font need to go to the tip	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Where relevant, your response will be shared with our partner organisations.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	What does this saving cover, you have provided no detail on how this is to be achieved.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	More detail required
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	So what do you propose?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Again a lack of detail/proposal makes commenting impossible	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Details.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	And sorry - what is the question being asked? Where are the details to allow us to comment properly? Who actually wrote this questionnaire? Savings could have been made on giving this job to somebody better qualified at giving good enough detail to allow for comment!;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Unable to make provide a constructive comment as there is no detail as to what the changes proposed are	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not enough detail to make constructive comments - what does this mean?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.; ; There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.; ; What does this mean? Closed for longer? Less staff on shift? Lack of clarity leads to confusion.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Well,what specifically are they? Can't comment without knowing what is being proposed!!!!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Tell us that you have efficiency to deliver but not saying what they are is not efficient for me to comment on without knowing what they are.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	See 1A. It is disingenious to ask people to comment on such a broad proposal with far too little detail for anyone to give an opinion on - it constitutes tick box consultation. It is difficult to argue with the broad principle outlined but it very much depends on how it impacts on people - reducing staff can often mean that the only method of communication is online and in many organisations this causes much greater inefficiency/no help at all for the customer/client. If we do not put the climate crisis front and centre of all policies then we are sacrificing the futures of our children	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I don't understand the question. How is the service being changed and what are the pros and cons? You have in no way defined what the £336,000 saving represents? How can the public make any informed comment here?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Always good to review but how about asking the end user this time? Twin streams was brought in without any consultation.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Find the Blackburn Recycling centre very good and staff always friendly and helpful. Only experienced queues post covid initially and at Christmas	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Too vague to allow for meaningful comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Some of the facilities at Broxburn are always out of order.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This proposal tells me nothing about what is planned or what will actually change so I'm wary but can't comment without details.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	This statement means nothing how can you estimate savings when the review has not taken place.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Are we really recycling properly no one seems to check the bins just empty them anything could be in any bin?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	You need to provide more detail before any meaningful comment can be made	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	More detail required	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	The Whitburn Recycling Centre is the best of all the WLC centres. Use this as a model.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Your statement is vague if fail to see how anyone could comment on this. If however your intention is to close recycling centres on rotation then you should expect to see an increase in fly tipping.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Ill be interested in what that really means. This was more waffle. Council probably think it's acceptable to have bins over flowing, have tax payer unable to use local facilities and unable to use the adequate transportation (e.g. a trailer) for the task because some beauracrat nonesense said it would save some money. Don't forget we the tax payer pay your salaries. Perhaps consider us as your sponsor.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	I don't think the 3 bin system works to be honest	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	It is not clear how this saving would be met. What would be cut? More jobs gone?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Why don't we recycle glass in West Lothian as part of the waste collection not everyone can access the bottle banks easily.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	There is always need to review service provision. Please give details on what this means in practice, in this context.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Starting with council buildings recycling properly would help.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	And another vague statement. What does this mean? Reducing the hours Community Recycling Centres are open? Reducing the numbers of them? Not helpful.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Flats are poorly serviced and the endstate of the CRC is not provided.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Again review should come first to identify what saving may be deliverable. Therefore, the saving if any is unknown?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not clear what the cost reduction is! Does this mean consolidation??	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Waste of time having four bins. Would have been better to add in a glass box instead	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Not clear what this actually would result in in practice	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Your waste service is a joke.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Maybe if you stopped messing with the recycling bins and left things alone you would save money as you are not spending it	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	WLC provide an excellent waste collection service and the outdoor crews keep the place very tidy. No complaints here. Just more dog poo bins in parks.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Specifically? Job losses or closure of centres?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	Is recycling really working? What percentage of waste isn't contaminated in some way which means the whole lot has to go landfill? Adding more bins to be emptied is confusing; Is it now really necessary to empty the grey bin fortnightly and the green one which now takes the bulk of household waste only once a month? This needs to be looked at.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	What would this entail? It would be good to know if existing centres could stay open, even if opening hours were slightly reduced.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4A Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models - Waste Services	what improved opening times and staffing levels	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Stop subsidising routes that fail to provide a service to the communities and instead push funding to the communities to figure out the best solutions for them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think this is a good idea as currently elderly/ vulnerable people face a lot of difficulty relying on unreliable public transport to get to places in time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with reducing under-utilised services but no significant withdrawal of complete services should be undertaken with public consultation and community agreement.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	you see so many buses going about without passengers this need reviewed and cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus services that are not used should not exist anymore.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This would give individuals more independence,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Empty busses not in line with environmental goals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	the new working strategy may result in the need to travel as much and if it has to be as proposed can only support the proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with removing these if they are not being used	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	All kids have a young scot card and get free transport let them educate themselves by making there own way to school on public transport	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	So many buses are empty. This waste of budget needs to stop.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Doesn't make sense to run empty buses. No issues with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Stop funding companies who fail to deliver have a clause that they payback if they fail to provide scheduled service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money.; ; Having said this. The drive to create a greener transport infrastructure and the need to keep communities connected means that there will always be a need to have a subsidised bus service, especially for rural or less well serviced areas. ; ; Removing duplication makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As the bus services within West Lothian (especially around Linlithgow) are appalling - hope WLC are not making any significant subsidy to the current service providers! An updated Transport Model for West Lothian is urgently required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Think this is reasonable but not to cut off remote places - there has to be some form of public transport albeit at a reduced rate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We need public transport but a reduction in services is fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with public transport review, updated focused transport strategies and removal of any ineffective concession art schemes or service subsidies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree, very sad but needs must.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No objections	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with public transport review, updated focused transport strategies and removal of any ineffective concession art schemes or service subsidies	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It may also be an idea to honour the statutory distance to provide school transport and not the additional reduced distances the council provide.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I am not a bus user myself but I know my elderly neighbour uses the bus and she and her friends use it frequently and this is a great service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	need to be careful you don't cut off small outlying communities who rely on public transport	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Yeah cut bus subsidies etc, no real commitment to this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As long as people are not left without adequate transport, there are already complaints about local bus services. Here, a well-publicised survey, online if cheaper would be very useful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Not sure how successful the Dial-A -Ride schemes actually are though? My elderly Mother was aware of them but rarely used one even although she could have, because it was too much of a faff to organise and didn't always either give her time or alternatively gave her too long to have to wait for the return journey.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As pensioners, we do make use of the Concessionary rail schemes into both Edinburgh (fairly regularly) and also into Glasgow (very occasionally), so we would feel the loss of these, however I do appreciate that savings need to be made and although it doesn't affect us personally	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If a bus route is not self-sustainable then it shouldn't exist.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	should only offer subsidies that are paid directly by government	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The council should remove all bus subsidies. The concessionary rail scheme is absurd as it encourages West Lothian people to travel to Edinburgh and Glasgow in favour of supporting their own high street and communities. I am sure that those that wish to continue to do this can afford it without subsidies from all of our council tax payers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	In theory, this is a sensible proposal. In practice it is likely to be highly contentious especially "... removal of all subsidies for bus routes that are not commercially viable." How and by whom will this judgement be made? As a pensioner, I use and greatly value the concessionary rail scheme. I would be sad to see this go but see its demise as almost inevitable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Good 👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree - if people used the buses the council would not have to subsidise uncommercial routes. It is terrible (for the council's budget but also for the environment) to see buses running regularly with no-one on them. The council would be cheaper paying for taxis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sounds sensible in the current climate, although there will no doubt be campaigns to save the underused bus routes!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Seems ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	They got legs, they can walk	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again, a review to ensure maximum uptake and service efficiency is a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Free bus travel is very good for under 22's.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Good idea more is needed one from winchburgh to allow people from the village to go to aldi/Lidl would be great.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sounds sensible. For example I like the idea of our local bus, however it passes twice an hour and is often empty which I feel must be a waste of resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Totally agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agreed. Use them or lose them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree with removing the cheap rail travel for pensioners with Bus passes.; The public transport system in West Lothian is pretty poor - irregular timetables, delays and high prices, so the few who do pay the full price are put off using them. Again, I thought the way forward for Scotland was a better public transport system. The majority of people who seem to travel on the buses, don't actually pay the full fare or any fare. However, some need this vital service to get to jobs, hospital appointments etc and have no other means to do so.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I can understand the need to remove certain services particularly if they are not being utilised but feel for residents in small villages out with Livingston who may not have any other form of transport.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Fantastic	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If there's two services on the same route at the same time; something has to give. Don't subsidise unless it's a critical, unviable route.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I strongly believe the concessionary rail scheme should be removed. This scheme is a luxury for pensioners, they are not trying to get to work, to hospital appointments, but are using the cheaper travel to enjoy a trip to the city for coffee with friends or there partner simply because they can.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport needs a complete overhaul, It does not meet requirements and perpetuates the use of personal vehicles which does not help our green strategy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree plenty people over 60 can afford to pay for this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Fine as long as the elderly and less affluent in our communities are not discriminated against by the proposed measures.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I would welcome a review of public transport. I live in Blackridge, and buses only go one way, East. The nearest village is Harthill, to the south around one and a half miles away, where we could get on an express bus to Edinburgh or Glasgow, but there is no connecting bus. There is no bus to our nearest large supermarket in Armadale. That is why the buses are under-used, because they don't go where people want them to go.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It is the case that the council needs to cease some services, particularly those that are not being used in significant numbers. Indeed, there are other options for the elderly disabled in our communities. I don't. feel that concessionary rail schemes should be axed as this is a service used by many.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	There is currently an overlap between service buses and school transport - worth reviewing whether both are required on some routes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As long as it doesn't mean that people who are living in remote areas can still accessing travel and get to where they need to. Removing services completely will mean most vulnerable people are disadvantaged.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	"The council would also propose to remove concessionary rail schemes with are in additional to existing national schemes"??? ; Spell check required.; But free transport for under 21s and over 60s seems excessive and unnecessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Although a vital service , most buses have one or two people, if any in them . There must be efficiencies to be made here.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree, however would be concerned for those in our outlying communities accessing services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree, subsidising services that aren't able to stand on their own should stop. So long as proper alternatives are available for vulnerable groups like the elderly who made depend on the services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Only if necessary and doesn't leave communities cut off.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree but care to be taken not to isolate groups of people just because they live somewhere that isn't on a popular bus route	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I support this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree that we cannot fund non profitable routes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sensible strategy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Totally agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Yes that is required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is not needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Makes sense,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree. I fail to see why the council subsidises any local bus companies. Let people buy a rail card if they wish discounts on the train to Edinburgh. Ridiculous that council tax payers are paying for this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Don't use it so good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	A pity but makes sense to save money here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal to remove subsidies for bus routes that are not commercially viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Most of that sounds fair - no point in driving around in an empty bus, damaging the environment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	makes sense, we see too many buses with barely anybody on them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think this is a fair proposal, I often see buses with few or no passengers. You are right, this is no viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Yes, it's more than a bus	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus service is pretty abysmal - however I don't blame WLC for this. I support removing the rail scheme as this is an additional scheme that WLC are paying for,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agreed, further savings should be expected here as most buses have NO passengers. What a waste of money this is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agreed. Sadly most buses out with peak hours have very few commuters and as such are not a good use of resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	agree re consolidating public services that are not utilised - these must be followed through even though some resistance will be present from the public; - as transport initiatives are also implemented from a Scottish Government perspective, there should be revenue streams provided from the SG for vulnerable adults, and those with a bus pass, etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It cannot be a licence to print money, but instead needs to separately identify the need to deliver efficiently heated homes to council tenants, encourage local food miles eating solutions for the least advantaged in their bailiwick, encourage climate change friendly local transport solutions, and encourage waste reduction by making it easier for households to reduce, reuse and recycle. A major component of all this lies in the education of our people, to help them make the right choice, and to make the right choice the most affordable choice. Where the most affordable choice route is not (yet) available, we need to make the right choice free for those on benefits.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Service reviews are a must as some services are completely over the top where as others are too infrequent and do not connect effectively. Sadly it's a dismal area at the moment for many people being left stranded as services fail to operate as expected. This impacts mental health, family life work life balance and cost effectiveness.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree in principle, but any withdrawal of subsidised services must take into consideration the ease or difficulty that would be created by any such service withdrawal (i.e. location of footpaths, cycle lanes)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The council needs to be careful not remove the only method of transport to residents who do not have alternative methods of transport. I agree that late night buses that are under-utilised should be removed from schedules.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Shame, but demonstrates the cost of providing services to a population with many small villages - should concentrate new development on intensifying and making best use of bigger towns, especially Livingston.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Stop supplying private taxi's and staff to pick up and drop of kids with learning disabilities to school for families that are already receiving mot-ability cars, carers allowance and to families earning over a certain amount of income, its ridiculous.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Fully support the removal of concessionary rail schemes - this should be applauded	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Robbing Peter to pay Paul. Transport provided to ALL young Scottish people, whether they can afford it or not seems like a poor use of public money.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I benefit from the concessionary rail scheme but do not object to its ending. Nevertheless the Council would seem to be cutting low carbon public transport which is entirely the wrong direction of travel. Coupled with the threatened reduction in community centres life is going to be increasingly isolated for the lonely.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Very sad but understandable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	as all under 22 now have bus passes, subsidies less needed as more passengers make routes viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Many buses are underutilised, wasting staffing, money, fuel and not being environmentally friendly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Long overdue!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ending the concession rail scheme makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Whilst I agree with stopping subsidies for bus routes that are under-utilised as I see plenty of buses driving around West Lothian with little or sometimes no passengers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Needs to be done very carefully to ensure people are not isolated and can get to where they need to	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree, these things must be looked at, along with everything else. From my own position I don't use the bus service very often as a number of them are unreliable. Which has become more apparent as the children have been given free bus travel and have been trying to use them more. The free travel is a great idea they are more familiar and happy to jump on a bus than some adults and parents aren't using vehicles to collect children. Going forward this can only be good for environment in the future. The cost of the Rail travel is very expensive I have a son going to Uni and it's £13.00 per day for him to attend.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This makes sense, the number of empty buses running in west lothian is scary. A more efficient way of moving people around this region should be explored and this sounds like a solid first stage.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Liase with staff in this area...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Underutilised services should be cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree there should be some form of rationalisation of underused routes but strong access to on public transport needed for both work and environmental reasons.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with removing concessionary rail	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think the concessionaire train costs are not required if there are adequate bus provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sort out public transport people need buses for over decade pensioners are losing their vital public transport bus routes change more than traffic lights do	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I constantly see empty buses driving around West Lothian. Based on savings needed, don't see how the council can justify using scare council tax payers money to subsidise bus companies to drive almost empty buses around West Lothian. There must be more economical ways to deliver transport to those that really need it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Why do we have to subsidise the public transport in the community?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	get rid of all subsidized buses. One of the most obvious and sensible things proposed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus routes not being used, makes sense to cut them but don't want to stop people being able to travel.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No point in running buses that aren't being used but not everyone has the money for transport.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Yes, agree. Underutilised resources and infrastructure should be removed after careful review. Wastages should not be tolerated as we're living in such difficult times. Good stuff. See if that cost-saving can help improve services in other areas. I'm sure you would have already thought about it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No Bus Routes should be subsidised, if bud services do not stand on their own, then they should be removed. It would be better to extend the free bud travel scheme to include, everyone during peak travel times. This would allow commercial businesses to increase provision at key times, and reduce as required. (Requiring no subsidy) Also since all under 22s can travel free on commercial routes why do we still provide school transport, this should also be removed and kids can travel on commercially available routes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with removal of concessionary rail as this can mean that working people over 60 get a reduction in the work travel?! However, is there any options to mitigate by changing the threshold? For example maintaining for disabilities and for over 70s? But I agree this provision should be removed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't understand why the council has to subsidise any public transport, either rail or bus. These bus companies have the council over a barrel. They constantly threaten to drop bus routes until the councillors capitulate and give them more money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't think councils should fund any bus services. I'd support removing all funding support to bus services and use the limited funding to target groups that need support most - Dial-a-Ride etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I really hope the concessionary rail travel is removed. It is not a priority for WLC	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Removal of free bus travel for school children unless required due to household income.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Savings not nearly ambitious enough. Would have expected more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree council can't afford to subsidise under used bus services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Good ideas	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Seems reasonable on the face of it to provide more targeted support where required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	stop funding all buses. Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Private taxis and chaperones for families/children on benefits are a huge waste of public money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Fair enough if they are not utilised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It public transport isn't used it should not be subsidised. Take all this money off. If people don't use the service they can't complain when it's not there any more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Would using smaller buses on certain routes not help, less fuel consumption. 1 person on a full sized bus for a journey is surely not cost effective.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree on removal of concessions on rail esp as we have free buses	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As long as above there are enough alternates in place to help those that require it and at affordable costs as many people with disabilities particularly mental health are unable to travel on public transport.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Tough call but if unused maybe even a taxi or mini bus service would be cheaper	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	; I agree with the Council looking to remove concessionaire rail schemes where additional national schemes are in place.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree. We can use technology more to support with schemes such as dial a ride.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Busses are important to local communities but if they are not being used then this needs to be looked at - but new timetables need to be issued to people who use these and local consultation is required. ; Removal of rail scheme - people can use the bus if required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	stop spending money on buses. Not a council job	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I very seldom use public buses. I would agree with the comment that buses seem underutilised as there does seem to be a lot of very empty buses on the roads at times. Good to see that alternatives are being considered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	With so many new schools being built in locations that previously had none, eg Winchburgh and East Calder, one would like to think that the school transport cost would begin to diminish and of the other services mentioned, how many are the Council legally required to provide? And I ask this question as a recipient of the concessionary rail scheme which I use very rarely and am happy to give up if it gives us better roads.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is a very difficult area especially in light of my answer to 4A. Sometimes the public transport services are underused because they are still not good enough to tempt people out of their cars ...and there are insufficient disincentives to choose the car. We must invest in our public transport services if we are to achieve the necessary fossil free future.; Although it would adversely affect me I agree with stopping some concessionary schemes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	A review of transport is a good idea as long as it not to the detriment of isolated communities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Great, the most honest question so far. Could have gone a bit further in defining the £2.2 million though, but in general it doesn't make sense to run buses with a couple folk in the current public spending context or give folk additional or duplicate concessions. Please congratulate the person that was honest enough to write this question.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This would only be possible if private bus companies have better services. Children have the Scottish Government funded bus passes but not all children are able to use this so school transportation would still need to be provided for ASN and those in rural areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Stop this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal as long s it is fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal but local scheme buses are a disgrace	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I'm shocked that the council currently subsidise as much as this. With the free child bus travel across Scotland, the council should not be providing additional subsidies unless it's for those pupils who have special needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Do away with free travel for over 60s most people either don't use it or can afford to travel and pay bus fares	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree this should be investigated but need to access who & how people be impacted. E.g . Will it stop health care staff being able to get to their place of work?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Most areas have shocking bus services. If that is subsidised then removing it cant make it worse at this point. ; ; Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The taxi scheme for kids to go to schools is an expensive option. Surely an another way is better. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concessionary rail schemes West Lothian discount is much appreciated, but are a bonus. Railcards can be purchased. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This one might be ok but you have to be careful in particular with our older people	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	please remove concessionary rail schemes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree - this has to be a priority not only to deliver a saving but to stop further increases in costs due to inflation etc. It is bad for the environment to have half empty buses running around. Concessionary rail has to go - it is a subsidy for rich people to spend money out with West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It is important that supply meets demand but a restructuring is definitely needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Comment made earlier, a transport grant provided for all current users of council based transportation. I accept there are special needs for some pupils. Given the volume of taxis that arrive with one child defies logic. Surely transportation will be provided at a special agreed price? Rather than a tariff based service.; By paying a travel grant then parents can support their own transport to get their child to school, or have the funds to pay family, friends etc to provide transport doubling up ie car share. ; This facility is available to higher education students and although may not be suitable for all pupils for the majority it would be. ; Mentioned was the bus support of 20% surely logical routes would help provide a suitable service at a far reduced cost, or more efficient.; I accept that this may all be conjecture, I do not have the facts, but thoughts of an observer at the start and end of the school day.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please consider taking more advantage of the free bus provision for young people. This could reduce school bus costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Unsustained routes being removed is sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus routes absolutely need to be looked at. Buses run through our village empty often. Rather than buses running every 20 minutes could they not run every half hour or hour so buses would have more passengers on each run.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree with most of this as long as alternatives are safe and do not combust.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	cancel or revise all the bus routes that are not used or increase the fares to a more realistic level and give a smaller grant	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Promoting other methods of transport to elderly or disabled is not publicised enough nor promoted through health, social policy, hospitals etc.; There are plenty national rail schemes to apply for, WLC should not need to supply concessionary rail travel.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again this makes sense, if the customers needs are being considered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Reducing the support for some bus services sounds reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If children are going to schools within the catchment area why are school buses needed?? ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree. A full survey on utilisation should be carried out. As long as elderly or infirm can access town centres and hospitals, students access local colleges.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Commercial focus is appropriate given financial constraints, although community need should be part of decision making.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	4B Agree with removing subsidies from non-viable services and use the money to provide community transport on a couple of vital routes as identified by the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Trains are limited users put the funding into the bus links	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concessionary transport schemes need to be overhauled.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree - end subsidies to public transport.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	review needed but i think if services were more readily connected and timetable we could see an uptake	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I feel public transport should be reviewed as important part of the community to ensure people can get to work etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Fair, in particular with free bus travel for under 22s and elderly. Additional funding from central government suggested if subsidies are necessary	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Demand responsive transport would be a better solution instead of subsidised services which are expensive to run and under utilised. I am not sure a national entitlement card is necessary. Public transport in general should be made more affordable for ALL users.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We must have wasted a fortune during the pandemic subsidising empty buses. Would probably be more cost effective to subsidise taxis!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ditch the subsidized rail fare's.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If there are inefficiencies and under-utilised services, this is fair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It makes sense to remove under-utilised transportation. Some school buses could be removed where the pupils are within a reasonable walking distance. This helping the carbon footprint too.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Unavoidable. We are paying for empty or near empty bus provision, It is an environmental affront,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree - I see many buses with 0 or just 1 or 2 passengers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We personally don't understand people getting free passes to go their work!!! It use to be free travel after rush hour and before evening rush hours. You don't get state pension till passed 65 why do you get a bus pass before then	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree as long as it's based on actual usage and cost to implement the route/travel. Focus on the needs of the many, not the needs of a few.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Could not imagine it was possible to have a worse more expensive public transport sport system than we do. I think that wealthy parents should not get free taxis for primary school kid just because they choose in live in mansions far away. They could subsidise the transport for children who can't afford the bus fare.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Reducing buses....yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I would agree about removing the rail scheme as this is getting more expensive perhaps work with a bus to the gyle or Edinburgh Park where day tickets for combined bus and travel in Edinburgh are only £4.50. Maybe offer subsidies to bus companies to try new routes so residents build trust that the buses will turn up. Right now it's a bit of a vicious circle the busses are so unreliable people don't use them, the buses get cut because they are nor viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree to removed the additional rail schemes.; Before any services are cut, alternatives need to be put in place.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Rail concessionary rail schemes should not be required due to the national existing schemes; ; Could it be looked into with the new scheme of free bus travel for everyone under 22 - could public buses be used for school runs rather than a subsidized bus through the council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If the services are under utilised then unfortunately a cost saving has to be made, could it be a smaller bus used for school transport. If the route is not commercially viable could they be joined up with another route? it may mean an earlier start for some however the cost and viability of the service needs to be taken into consideration.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Whilst it would be disappointing to lose local services and transport links, if there has to be a reduction in funding somewhere, this would be an area I would support. This is providing that services remained available for the most vulnerable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	i dont use the train much, maybe 6 or 7 times a year to edinburgh but its not much cheaper than off peak prices so i could stretch to paying that extra or get the bus,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The buses aren't reliable enough, better to encourage active transport	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agree partly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I support removing concessionary rail schemes where there are equivalent national schemes in place.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree with reprioritising Transport for passengers as not everyone has cars. Public transport is very important to get people to work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Whole villages are now cut off due to public transport being so poor. Services constantly being cut are resulting in the public not even being able to get to their place of work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	At the moment villages are being cut off due to no buses being in service, if this increases people will not be able to get to work and again this would impact on public services. Also in a time of environmental concern encouraging people to use cars instead of public transport goes against every advice given by environmental leaders.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I am lucky that I drive as I suffer from motion sickness, but my reason for taking car is that bus routes are too long what can take me 10mins to drive can take anything from 45mins upwards on a bus and I have to turn into places that are not even on my journey, there are no direct routes, if the transport was more direct, I would ditch my car for public transport. Ceasing services usually means to more rural areas and for the poorer in our society this can have an adverse effect on their health and opportunity to earn forcing people to move away from family to find work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is again taking vital services away from the people and pushing the increasing cost of fares to them as a result of the termination of the subsidies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Removing rail concessions will impa pensioners and the disabled disproportionately.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Here's hoping that when you get a subsidized bus that you don't add loads of extra added time on detouring here there and everywhere getting to your destination - a lot of people rely on concessionary schemes so not a good thing for them as means extra to pay on top of everything else	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Non commercially viable routes are the reason they are subsidised. If they where viable the bus companies would run them themselves. Removal of some routes will leave areas cut off, unless you get 2-3 buses on a protracted route, increasing environmental footprint print.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This would remove an essential resource for elderly, young people and many others who rely on these devices for well being, social engagement and essential appointments	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is going to marginalise residents. Surely the job of the council is to subsidise non commercially viable options- or they would be run by commercial operators?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Are the services underutilised as there has already been cuts so far back that the bus times do not accommodate the need for workers to get to work etc and they have had no choice but to drive to work?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Any cut to services which enable communities to connect should not be considered. Perhaps an agreement can be reached with companies where data is collected and WLC pay per travelling passenger. Most people using these services see it as a lifeline to engaging with others and protecting health and wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The free and concessionary services are vital and must be maintained	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again rural areas will be greatly impacted, less opportunities for people living there to access work, people rely on public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Access to public transport is important for many vulnerable people, including the elderly to support their engagement with community and access to facilities in towns. The negative impact of withdrawal of services should be fully researched before any changes are made	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Think very carefully about this. Public transport in our county is poor enough as it is. Do not make it worse. A bus from Bathgate to Livingston that takes over an hour is ridiculous enough already, for what is a 15 minute journey. Do not make this sort of stupidity worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	These services are underutilised not because people don't want to use them, but because they've been cut left right and centre over the years to the point of them being completely ineffective and unreliable modes of transport. We NEED effective public transport. Effective public transport comes from investment, increasing availability and making it more affordable. WLC are proving to be particularly effective at doing just the opposite. Another step towards cutting off communities and lowering living standards further. Great job.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ensuing communities are not cut off should be key to these decisions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some of these services are the only ways that people have in accessing relatives, services and conducting their business. By reducing the options, it may bring pressure to other services due to increased mental health issues, a reliance on requiring help in the home, commute to workplaces and increased missed appointments therefore there needs to be careful consideration before decisions are made to ensure people are not cut off especially in rural areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This may be counter productive to reducing co2, with a potential increase in household drop off and pick up. It would also create unsafe parking around schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I understand the need to make savings, but there are many people who would have no practical access to public transport if the subsidised routes were removed. eg most of Murieston, We do not all drive and cannot all afford to rely on taxis. As I understand it dial a ride and handicabs are only for those with disabilities and not available to the rest of the community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Without subsidies the young people who cannot drive will struggle to get to work as will many of working age who cannot afford a car/petrol thus impacting the economy and making it more unappealing for people to find employment. We should be removing obstacles to encourage people to work, not adding them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Discouraging the use of public transport, not the right thing to do when you are supposedly trying to encourage people to use their cars less. Typical of council attitudes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This breaks my heart. As a non driver in a town with few active travel options this will leave me and others who cannot drive, a demographic that is majority poor and female isolated and forced to rely on taxis we can ill afford in this financial climate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Inevitably some bus routes will not always be "commercially viable". This does not mean they are not required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	There is a risk that removing commercially unfixable services you are removing lifelines from poor undeserved community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport in West Lothian is non existent in some areas; People want to use public transport but the lack of choice & high prices puts people off; Transport needs to be looked at again before making any decisions	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	How do you expect to commit to Net Zero without offering viable bus routes and train	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please don't isolate us further. The only chances some have to return to the workplace is via the buses and public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This will have severe impact on isolated communities hitting the most vulnerable hardest. Review should focus on impact not just cost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	For a lot of people this is their only to get out and about. By removing this availability you are encouraging isolation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Absolutely NOT! The concessionary rail scheme is a life line for disabled people getting to hospital appointments and education provision. For example, expecting a disabled person to go 2 hours on a bus to a 10 minute hospital appointment in Edinburgh and then 2 hours back is shameful. Must be nice to be a rich Tory and being able to afford a car and fuel and parking. Again, the council are determined to remove all services for the disabled community. Taxi cards have already been removed and blue badges are no longer free, so it's essential concessionary rail remains.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I imagine that removing subsidies for SOME of the bus routes that are not commercially viable would probably have a bigger impact on those who live in more rural areas and NEED them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The concessionary rail scheme is very important to me as it allows me to access health and support services in Edinburgh that aren't available in West Lothian. If this goes I probably won't be able to access these services as much leading to social exclusion and working of my health.; I'd be fine with the bus as an alternative but it's about a 3hr round trip on the bus to get to my weekly appointments in Edinburgh. Why not make a direct bus from Livi to Edinburgh centre which doesn't stop 300 times on the way	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	People in remote areas need access to transport or else they become isolated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Council tax payers are entitled to the same level of concessionary travel as in all other parts of Scotland. By national schemes if you mean buying the rail cards then those that wouldn't travel enough to recoup the costs are being penalised.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus service in Winchburgh is already a joke through terrible service provision from what was First bus and now McGills. Removing or reducing these services for those who can't have cars seems thoughtless for the more vulnerable in our region	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Goes against trying to get people to use public transport and less reliance on cars	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The last sentence makes no sense? "The council would also propose to remove concessionary rail schemes with are in additional to existing national schemes." Public transport in West Lothian is and always has been poor and overpriced. With Lothian Country removing some services this month, please do not remove any more buses	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Appalling suggestion. How extensive a cost benefit analysis have you done? Seriously.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This completely goes against trying to encourage use of public transport.The more vulnerable members of society, elderly and disabled will be unfairly penalised and unable to get about independently.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	So existing people having worked for 40 plus years will now not have any concessions, but higher bills and less facilities. A bus to let cal town is a great day out to a lonely pensioner.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport links for everyone is important around all of west lothian still need enough services so people that can not drive can get to places.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some villages are already seeing cuts to service which is no goof	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I am lucky enough to have a car so can't comment but this must be fully discussed with people who actually use the services as they are the only people who can tell you the impact of this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus service is very poor currently and further reduction will have major impact on vulnerable groups such as the elderly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Not a good idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	not a good idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We should be trying to encourage more public transport use, not cutting it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Removal of bus services and also concessions for rail travel will adversely affect people with fixed low budgets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Elderly people rely on this service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Less money , less cars more demand for public transport which you want to cut?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Removal of bus services to communities affects those on the lowest incomes and reduces their access to shops, banks and other facilities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Local public transport services are dire and worsening due to the cutback in subsidies from WLC. I have a young daughter who encounters so many episodes of her scheduled bus not turning up to get her to work/university. I see on many local community pages the struggles that residents here have just trying to get to work and its getting worse all the time. I real effort needs to be made so that we can encourage our young people to stay in local employment with a decent public transport provision. Not everyone can afford a car, and climate change and the wish to reduce emmissions should be a part of this cost consideration too.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Rail concessionary travel is important and sometimes only way older people can get out of their home and avoid social isolation which impacts on their health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some communities within West Lothian are rural and people depend on public transport. There should be no erosion of service for these communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	In regards to removing concessionary rail schemes I think this is disgusting!; By taking such benefits from people will impact on their health and well being. Alot of people use public transport as a means to get out and about, this helps with mental health, taking it away would be a disaster.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As some one who can not drive and has to use the bus I need them. I live in Blackburn and have been told that two of the bus i use will stop as of the 20th of November this year. This is a problem for me as I have to use walking sticks to get about. Plus one bus has had it route moved which means I can not get to the hospital without going in to Livingston first.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	More regular buses to allow for increase in children/young people using buses with the free bus passes. More routes to make; West Lothian easier to access	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Don't agree with providing under 22's with free public transport, however the handicapped and elderly should receive assistance where appropriate	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport in West Lothian is already woeful - I don't support this approach	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sounds like changes that could be more harmful.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ceasing services will leave the most vulnerable unable to move around the community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again people will be forced to stay home. How can the public who rely on these services go about their daily business and get to the appointments they need to go to	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Local transport is a nightmare it barely exists. It is the worst transport I have ever came across. It isolates people and is so expensive. Whether your elderly or have disabilities transport is inconsiderate and in 2022 that's not acceptable but just gets worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Village communities cannot be cut off. This leads to villagea becoming ghost towns. A daily bus is not too much to ask	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Not a good idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Nat all happy with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport concessions should not be changed It's bad enough trying to get around for older people The cost of living crisis is bad enough without cutting this. People need to live	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We need more bus services in Livingston not less. Removing concessionary rail schemes would not save a lot of revenue.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I would be very sad to see the concessionary rail travel go. I find it very useful and a much better option than the bus.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I do not agree with this proposal, this will impact on senior citizens with costs their budget off their pensions and would restrict them being able to get out and about. I know a lot of people depend on the dial a ride scheme to get their shopping and at times is the only time they get out the house. This would damage their well being in general.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some routes need to be subsidised due to low passenger numbers but that does not mean the routes are not required. For a lot of people these services are essential and their only means of travel. Removing these subsidies and routes can have a very negative impact on people's lives. I would strongly recommend that this does not happen if anything the subsidies should be increased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Whilst I personally don't use the rail service very often, I do feel that the local concession makes using the railway more affordable for many older people on limited incomes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Money is very tight for many people of my age, and the removal of the existing rail concession would be a major disappointment for myself, and many others like me.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As a 1950's woman who has already had her state pension age moved out by an additional 6 six years without prior notice, I feel the proposed removal of the local concessionary rail schemes would be yet another severe blow, not just to myself and my cohort, but to the older population in general.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't understand why cutting off essential bus services seems to be a priority especially after the much lauded £250,000 that was given to the council in regards of public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	There needs to be a better alternative than, essentially, cutting whole sections of WL off from each other.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I do not think there is enough public transport and I would be opposed to the ceasing of bus routes as they provide a vital link for communities that are not central to town centres etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This could increase the number of cars on the road so not good for 'green' targets. In addition it will put more pressure on the road networks which are already struggling, particularly the state of the roads (potholes etc).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	See previous comment about school busses - DON'T remove them! A reduced town service rather than completely removed town service would be better for our elderly and disabled constituents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	You should be encouraging people to use public transport instead of taking opportunities to use public transport away.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I do use the concessions on the buses and trains. If these were removed i feel that a lot of older folk would not use the services and be stuck at home which is not good for anyone's health. The reduction in services would also be detrimental to those who do use it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Whilst some routes might not be commercially viable, they are necessary for some people - before removal of routes, proper understanding of impact needs to be examined.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some bus routes may not be commercially viable but are a lifeline to those who use them. This could isolate elderly people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Commercial viability should not be the deciding factor in decisions. Concessionary rail schemes provide a lifeline to a number of otherwise marooned residents in the outlying communities. I believe that this should be subject to careful consideration.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	With so many post-industrial rural communities in West Lothian, reductions in servicing will need to be carefully managed to limit isolation and desperation in some of the outlying communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I am totally against any such attempts to effect savings in this area in what has been declared in Scotland as a climate crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	All such measures will do is increase further the usage of more expensive private car travel and emissions. Bus services have already been cut in the Linlithgow ward and the withdrawal of the excellent EX2 direct service to Edinburgh under cover of Covid has been one of the more glaring errors. So, in aggregate terms, this scandalous blinkered proposition is not a cost saving measure. It is a cost shifting exercise by the Council onto other sectors in the community, mainly hard pressed households, that also defeats measures to reduce emissions and stabilise climate change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Keep the free bus travel scheme	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Not enough buses and some are already being cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concessionary transport is vital for the elderly people giving us a chance to get out and about and see people, whether in shops or on the bus. Avoids feeling depressed and stuck at home with no contact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please also consider that many customers of subsidised rural services are elderly and disabled. One of the other proposals is digitising access to services, many elderly do not have access to the Internet. If a regular bus service is taken away and replaced with a dial a bus that is booked online then many elderly as disabled in more rural areas will be entirely unable to access essential services and unable to meet their needs. What plans does the council have to support the mental health and physical welfare issues that cuts such as this will cause?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As a resident of a rural part of West Lohian I see how essential some of these not commercially viable routes are. Please do not cut off rural communities, especially those with council houses. People are penalised for not taking council homes offered to them but if taking them would mean that they are stuck rural with no way out then our rural communities will die.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ending all unprofitable bus routes is a terrible idea and not good for the climate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus routes are mainly used by people who are closer to the poverty line, they are important to communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Another proposal which will affect the poorer in our communities- those that rely on public transport may live in rural areas, and reduces services further (many of which are pretty poor already) will only isolate the most vulnerable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus services are already reduced without further reductions. This has caused a lot of stress for the public sector especially if they use public transport to get to work. Yes some routes may not be commercially viable but how are people supposed to get out...Some of people are out of work and have no means of transport, possible cant afford bus fares either. Could be why some routes are underutilised.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I do not agree with removing concessionary rail schemes for passengers over 60 years old. My wife and I are regular users of the Uphall to Edinburgh rail service as the concessionary price of the ticket enables us to prevent car journeys into Edinburgh. I cannot use the alternative Park and Ride with a bus service as I have a disability that requires frequent use of a toilet and this facility is not available buses whereas it is available on trains.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus routes have changed dramatically lately and not very efficient for customers anymore especially in more rural areas. 1 journey shouldn't take over an hour. Although I understand savings must be made and I'm sure there are more efficient ways of working this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This needs to be thought out carefully as people in more rural or villages on the outskirts of towns are already struggling to access this and need to take 2 buses to destinations on a restricted service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Remove concessionary rail schemes in addition to national schemes, but please do not isolate those in communities who do not own their own cars by removing the only bus services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This will greatly impact on those in poorest areas that cannot afford cars and will impact on general accessibility to everything. It's also a greener way to travel and more people will be forced to use cats and taxis. Meaning more pollution of green spaces. I urge you not to take away bus subsidiaries.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus service across West Lothian is terrible. The council should be looking to resolve the infrastructure to allow people to get to jobs, hospitals etc not reducing services further. People would pay for a service that was reliable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	That will cause loneliness and isolation for many who can't afford full payments for travel especially pensioners	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some bus services have been cut and it will not encourage people to use public transport	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	by underutilized are looking at a max peak flow capacity of average capacity. peak flow capacity needs to be maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I have seen bus services diminish in other areas and its devastating, especially for people who do not have the luxury of a car. alternates like handicabs/dial a bus etc are probably even less cost effective and if already in use by someone else still leaves others without transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Care needs to be taken to ensure a balance between business case & community care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Like so many people I would take public transport more if I could but it unreliable and patchy. There is a bus that runs twice a day from the western general hospital to Livingston. When I get this 90% I am the only person on that bus. It would be cheaper for the council to pay for my tax. I am not saying cancel this service I am saying increase this and subsidies it. The number of NHS staff and patients that would use this is high. If only there was more buses and service routes. You can't give young people transport cards and then remove the buses particularly in deprived rural/semi rural areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Living in a semi rural area, I would be concerned about any loses to bus routes. We are within 25 minutes or so of Edinburgh, and the bus service is already unreliable - when it could be so much better. Those routes that are not commercially viable at the moment likely could be if the service was reliable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	not removing subsidised bus services as this will have a devastating impact on those without access to a car, roughly a third of households. This is a shocking proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus services do not need to be cut. People heavily rely on them. In many ways!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Come on absolutely shocking stripping people of their public transport are you serious dial a ride wtf there are taxi companies and people use vital public transport get a bus company take them on full time just proves that you will stop the public use of buses but dump us with bins that are overcrowding streets not repair elderly bungalows or even repair any social housing that's 40 years old	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Vulnerable people rely on concessionary bus services. West Lothian is a big authority in terms of its size, elderly people rely on decent transport services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Investment in public transport to reduce the use of cars etc within a busy Livingston area. Stop building carparks and force on public transport within Livingston to reduce usage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	most people use buses through necessity and taking busses off routes because they are under used could mean people in areas which are rural ie Westfield and torphican would struggle to afford to go to shops or social activities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Need to ensure that communities are served with transport for the elderly etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	goes against green transpor policy - either people will be trapped at home or have to use cars.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	What about young people who are eligible for concessionaries that need the structure and normalcy of a regular bus. Would this cause isolation for groups within the community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Areas in WL are already challenged with commute issues and connectivity - crucial this is handled carefully generally but with these outlying areas in particularly as a large elderly population exists and are badly affected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We need to ensure that people can still access their jobs by using public transport	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport figures have been reducing given the pandemic and more towards homeworking and hybrid working arrangements so a review of public transport makes sense. However, as a stereotype it would be people in poorer paid jobs travelling that would require to use a bus so there needs to be a way to ensure connectivity with workplaces. West Lothian is not the same as city populations where bus use is more easily accessible and used by a wider range of the population and there for community bus schemes should be investigated. For example can a community take ownership of a bus provision based on their community need (travel to doctors, travel to shops and to organised community entertainment events etc), not necessarily running every day but on specific days for a specific purpose where the council supports this through provision of the actual bus or undertaking the maintenance?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Subsidised services can be vital for some communities. Even currently, public transport is being cut by providers leaving some communities with no public travel services at all. Dedridge west will have no bus service at all from November leaving residents unable to access shopping, health or social services. Given our drive to be more environmentally friendly we should be increasing public travel services in order to encourage people to use public services rather than personal cars not cutting provision.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concessionary rail schemes should not be cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The removal of subsidies will cause more traffic on roads, this will cut off St John's Hospital by many. I'm sure the removal of concessionary rail travel to Edinburgh will also cause more traffic. For the above reasons I would be against removal of subsidies and concessionary rail scheme, especially to Edinburgh being removed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This will destroy the ability for people who require public transport to have independence so should not be considered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	By reducing some transport services, many people could potentially become more isolated, particularly the elderly or those who do not have transport. It can already be difficult to get buses with many routes already limited.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	In craigshill from 20th November we will only have one bus coming through which is diabolical especially for the elderly and disabled people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If you withdraw support on routes that are not viable what alternatives does that community have	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus service is unreliable however as the Scottish Government has given free travel to so many under 22 and over 60s needs still to be in place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I disagree. Climate crisis requires us to use our cars less. We need to use buses more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Removing concessionary rail schemes would completely some people off who rely on such schemes to travel.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Are you mad! The people that rely on this will be isolated!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This will affect the poorest society of people who can not afford a car. It will also affect the elderly who rely on public transport. It will also have an affect on shops when these people are unable to get to them. The people making these decisions don't rely on buses though and have no idea how it can affect a person's life.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport services need to improve and not be reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	still need important busses for main routes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	subsidies for remote bus routes should not be removed, as this would isolate villages. Subsidised rail travel, if this was reduced or taken away it may encourage people to use public transport including underutilised us services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Council should insure not community is completely cut-off from public transport, if subsidised buses are withdrawn.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This seems to contradict the move to make better use of public transport. Small communities in WL are already disadvantaged disproportionately and cutoff from mainstream transport routes this may just isolate those most in need of transport even further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The removal of concessionary rail schemes would mean no concessionary travel links to Glasgow from for example Bathgate. The x51 bus from Livingston to Glasgow was withdrawn.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Cant leave the young and elderly stranded	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus routes are being reduced at a time when young people are being encourage to use public transport. I find this crazy,;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus service seem to be poor at the moment and it is important to encourage people to use public transport not discourage.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Any spend on bus subsidies should be providing value for money. The transport strategy needs to reflect that.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Strongly disagree these are life lines	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport within WL is a disgrace already. Further cuts would be to effectively remove public transport as an option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	i think this should stay the same	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Buses shouldn't have to be 'commercially viable', they are there to provide connections for those without other means of transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	In some areas in West Lothian there are already no or limited bus services and this can be isolating for people as not everyone can afford a car and the running of a car or can in fact drive. People still need to be able to commute to their work without the journey taking an excessive time. Perhaps it may be possible to reduce services but not cancel them completely.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Even uncommercially viable bus routes are needed. Not every one has a car, etc. Not many people many use them but they are VITAL for the people that do. May be look at smaller more efficient busses to reduce the cost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public are asked to use public transport but it won't happen if you keep taking concessions away and rising the prices!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus my son uses is always busy so; Not sure why that would be removed. How would he get to school in the morning. We live over 2 miles from the catchment school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport needs protected not everyone has a car and reductions will lead to people becoming housebound	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Terrible idea. Generally the underutilised bus routes are from remote and isolated locations so stands to reason already poor provision will become worse. Also, people don't generally work 9-5 and public transport needs to be available to accommodate this group. This will only increase the use of cars and have an adverse effect on climate change policies. Could Handicabs and Dial-a-Ride be better utilised e.g. used early morning to replace some quieter bus routes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Isolating rural communities even more which pushes more people to invest in personal travel and the effect that has on the environment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Consequences on isolated communities could be dire if no public transport link available	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree about doing away with subsidised routes of underutilised services, but I and my spouse do not drive so it would depend on the proposal of what would be cut. The exploring of updated transport model is required but again Linlithgow does have a good local service the national service by the new Commercial Owners is not the best, the idea of concessionary bus, Handicabs and Dial-a-Ride schemes is a reasonable strategy to look too. The removal of all subsidies for bus routes that are not commercially viable I thi8nk this would depend on what routes you are looking at. The proposal to remove concessionary rail schemes and existing national schemes this seems a bit harsh due to the way of cost of living is going, I feel this should be put on hold till as most people that use this would not have the cost the rail companies charge for travel at this time a possible recession.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Spell check!!! Do not remove concessionary rail scheme, please.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Our public transport system is a joke! The residents of Deans South in particular are about to be left with 1 bus service and no bus service on a sunday, excellent!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Rural communities rely on being able to access essential services including their GP other health support services as well as shops by taking a bus. I understand many subsidised services are not utilised effectively but can these other options suggested give a reliable means of transport service for residents?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Our local bus service is avoided because it can't be relied on. I took a lower paying job closer to home rather than having to rely on that bus service to get home and collect my child from nursery before it closed. So it has a direct impact to the economy when you remove provision of transportation to employment. So I think this could be a false economy. Removing transport leading to underemployment or unemployment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Rural communities would be hard hit by the removal of vital bus services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport is necessary for people to get to work or for attending appointments. Careful consideration as to what is cut must be undertaken to ensure that people are able to get to and from work etc. This could also impact mental health as public transport is a lifeline for visiting families and friends.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This sounds like some people might lose links between communities and I would disagree with cutting funding for transport, as this kind of service is vital for people without other modes of transport available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concessions on buses & rail should remain as we try and stop people use their own transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I am concerned about the impact on vulnerable people who rely on public transport if 'non commercially viable' transport routes are removed. Might reductions in frequency of well used routes be better than removal of less used routes altogether. Livingston and Bathgate seem to be very well served fir public transport options whereas Linlithgow has 1 option to move around the county on a bus. Is there an assumption being made about car ownership?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Providing transport for those who HAVE to travel is a great provision however the criteria for this should be addressed as those that live near should not be requiring this. Also a better logistical approach for route planning would be required.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The transports links across west Lothian continue to be not fit for purpose, anyone without a car needs to get 2 buses to get to Livingston if they live out with that town	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	its the people in commercially non-viable areas that probably need this most	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As usual the outlying villages will suffer most, will make people buy cars again making the argument about environmental rather silly	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think the Council should seek where possible to maintain this area of service given the rurality of most of WLC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As the current cost of living crisis, removal of services will not help those who can't afford other methods of transport	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Reducing options for public transport will encourage more residents to buy cars/motorbikes/etc. this will increase pollution levels across the authority.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Definitely need to align services with demand but make bus travel easier and more attractive. Is seems mad to reduce bus services when trying to achieve Net zero.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Taking away the train subsidy goes against the push to remove cars from the roads. Train tickets are expensive & removing the subsidy seems to go against that. If the trains are running surely having a subsidised fare is better than no fare. Put limits to travel time, if that is not already in place	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The removal of non-commercially viable routes has a significant impact on individuals who do not have access to their own transport. It also encourages those with the option to choose to drive resulting in increased car use and subsequent environmental impact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Disagree with transport being cut- need to be reviewed. Buses to operate so people can get to much needed services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The priority has always been east -west travel not north -south. It can take hours with multiple changes and often means going into Edinburgh and back out. Needs a full review of where people actually want to go not just what makes the bus companies profit. Need to keep concessionary fares for 60+ as otherwise would be unaffordable on a pension. You have to distinguish between value and price. The rail concession probably doesn't have much take up so not that expensive to provide, but for those that need it there is great value.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please leave subsidised transport	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	in the first sentence; If the council "subsidises" 20% of bus routes it will become expensive because of the loss of buses. Concessionary rail schemes for the elderly are a strong motivation for these beneficiaries to maintain their ability to use rail services. Trying to make savings from this should NOT proceed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The climate crisis which requires provision of inexpensive, high-quality public transport links to reduce the use of private fossil-fuelled transport. Such transport also reinforces links between communities and supports those unable to use private transport. This is the wrong direction to be heading.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again as long as it doesn't affect current services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Totally against removal of the concessionary rail scheme. You spout Green issues as being a concern yet you seek to cancel buses that many people rely on on a daily basis eg bus from Bathgate to Linlithgow. Totally against these proposals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	So long as service provision and support for disabled people is still available	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Don't agree, public transport expansion should be the priority to encourage people to use buses. If a bus is only once an hour or bypasses somewhere how are people supposed to get to places without jumping into cars?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	With an essential bus service now cancelled from 20th Nov in Eliburn, more help is desperately needed to get a reliable bus service back for my community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	In a climate crisis, it is essential that people be encouraged to use public transport wherever possible. This has to be accessible to people with and without cars, and options like train travel should be a more attractive options than personal cars. Removing concessionary rail schemes will have the affect of more current recipients of this scheme choosing cars which is the opposite of what we needs to encouraged to help fight climate change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some routes have already been cancelled meaning that less people are able to use public transport. Will this result in more people being unable to travel for work appointments etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	School transport needs to be urgently reviewed. Taxi services are being used & prices quotes by the tendering companies are heavily inflated & have been for years, the tendering process needs to be reviewed & operators being given more school Co tracts than they have cars to cover should stop	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport links between Linlithgow and Livingston (St. John's and the shopping centre) are minimal at best. Providing a regular reliable service on such routes is essential for older and younger people to access these services/ routine appointments/ visiting relatives. Not everyone can drive, and we are supposed to be reducing car use to save the planet.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	the public bus services are not underutilised, reducing bus services in prominent areas where bus pass users reside is not the same as passengers not requiring a service. im a disabled bus servie user, i cant gain access to busses as they dont show up, change there route last minute, or watch you coming up to a stop and leave early causing you to fall and break your knee, which takes months and months to remobilise. if you can ... you think people are going to want to use a service that actively avoids them when it causes them damage when they use it. medical patient transport is a necessity but they dont have enough services and i cant get to all of my appts, cause of the fricking public bus services immobilised me into a potetntial long term disability, so i cant use them. so thanks for the cost cutting	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Efficient, well developed public transport facilities are going to be essential to deliver climate targets. Any incentive to encourage public transport use must be a good thing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Ohhhh not sure this is worthy of cutsespecially school transport...and transport for disabled	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concerned about impact on rural communities if some routes are removed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	All areas require a suitable public bus service. At present not all areas of west Lothian have this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It is ridiculous that we are unable to access a bus service from Dedridge West to Edinburgh or from Dedridge west to Dedridge east. This will make it impossible for those without a car to be able to get to Morrisons for work or for shopping and the pharmacy. Those who use the bus service are unable to pay the money that a private taxi would cost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Analysis of subsidised bus routes would show where these are essential to combat isolation particularly in the elderly.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport is a major issue which links to the environment. Looking at the number of cars in every household. Public transport needs to be pushed make it harder to travel into town by car.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Removal of routes which are not commercially viable will impact directly on more vulnerable parts of communities who do not have access to other forms of transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Do not further isolate rural communities who already feel cut off from support and investment in the area. People rely on public transport, it should be efficient but accessible and useable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport needs to be more easy to access	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	tough one, even if the bus is only for one person it could be a lifeline for that person. as long as there is an alternative	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport services are one way to meet the ongoing ecological and environmental challenges we face at large. Providing quality public transport services and access means less cars on road and has an ecological benefit. Routes have already been restructured and services cut. This is likely to impact mental health for some if they cannot get and around their local community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some of the routes are used primarily by young people or elderly who have free cards. These routes might not be commercially viable, but are important to our Young and elderly. Other areas in Scotland have have buses that sit in town centres and can be phoned to go somewhere. Inveraray seems to have a good model.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Non viable bus route can be a lifeline to older members of the community who use the service in rural areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus services are already poor	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This will affect youngsters and pensioners the most and is morally wrong	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I cannot drive so reducing bus service is nightmare for me.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If removing subsidies though, prices are likely to go up and this could particularly affect those who will also be financially impacted by the proposed removal of the concessionary schemes. It may also prompt more people to use their cars.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The difficulty with public transport is that the service delivered, in my experience from buses, has been below the standard needed both in terms of the number of services and reliability. Subsidised services may be underutilised for this reason.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	For some people this is an essential service and should not be cut if it can be avoided	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Cutting public transport services reduces accessibility and will encourage people to use private cars. The accessibility and quality of the services needs to be at the forefront of any changes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Reducing transport options will send those who are more deprived into further deprivation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Getting rid of the only service to Dedridge Croft head poses a danger to young and old being kept safe	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No, I do not agree that cutting bus routes is the way forward. Vulnerable groups rely on buses, particularly on uncommercial routes. You risk leaving elderly and young people isolated and unable to travel. Not everyone has a car or is able to drive, it is the council's duty to protect those vulnerable groups.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I agree.....public transport are lifelines for many people who struggle to pay even subsidised rates	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus services are terrible .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some of the trasport links are essential for the elderley in particular to get around. It would be a tragedy to lose these services as the impact on the people that rely on them would be massive	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The provision of this service in conjunction with community outreach provides my wife with her only opportunity to leave the village on her own and during winter of term her only chance to leave the house	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Already not enough bus services for people to get to work, with commercial services already leaving area. Concessionary schemes won't work if there are no buses.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport in West Lothian is already extremely poor, which is why it is under used and pushes people towards car use. Its no wonder routes are not commercially viable- I don't want to take a bus from Bathgate to Livingston that takes 40 minutes when I can drive in less than 20. It's appalling for the environment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Living rurally in West Lothian the bus services, particularly with free bus travel for young people, is an absolutely critical socio-economic enabler. Without transport many other questions about services become irrelevant as communities will become cut off. How will the viability of any particular route be determined? And weighed against the proportion of that community who are car-owning?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is a backward move removing subsidised rail service when public transport is being encouraged and provide a fully integrated public transport	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus services are terrible at the moment with services late or not running at all. This only encourages more car use, affecting green strategies, but also leaves remote communities in danger of becoming more remote.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Those that have money have cars. Those with less money, therefore potentially on benefits, may rely on these services. It is important that people don't lose access to transport to services, medical appointments, care & treatment services etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Less than ideal as these subsidised services, while not fully used will have major benefits for those who do. Focusing on commercially viable routes only will have an impact on travel, particularly as those in less well connected areas would then either be isolated or it would lead to an increase in the number of cars, which would have a negative impact on the environment and climate change.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Two members of staff who work in my school cannot now get to work unless they walk 3 or 4 miles due to Buses being cut. The members of staff now face more dangers in the dark mornings trying to get alternative modes of transport (where there are none) no trains. They do not earn enough for Taxis. This is not appropriate	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Too many early morning buses taken off routes that people need to get to work; Not everyone is 8-4,9-5 what about ppl that start anytime from 4am	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Need to have public transport for all young people available in small places	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	These services are underutilised because WLC is woeful at publicising that they exist in the first instance!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is going to leave some rural communities without a bus service, which can have an impact on getting to work, access healthcare, etc. the present system is already not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please do not remove all routes that are not commercially viable. Some of us rely on local bus services and the removal or further reduction will leave some of us and vulnerable people cut off. By all means reduce frequency but at least leave some availability to access medical appointments and shopping etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	the concessionary traveller won't notice anything different as most of those are 8am - 8pm travellers, but for folks like me who start at 6am and on alternate shifts til 10pm 7 days a week, this would be a disaster for me...(i have to get a bus at 4.51 from bathgate to get me to broxburn for a 6am start....this is the ONLY service that can get me direct to my work (there is one other way but its multiple buses, via livingston)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Under-utilised does not necessarily equate to not needed! Removal of 'not commercially viable' services and ceasing services from Handicabs and Dial-a-Ride schemes will without question impact the most vulnerable in our community and isolate people in their homes!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport is vital to elderly and reduces social isolation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I appreciate my bus pass and having rail travel at a cheaper rate has enabled to see my family who live out with our region without that I would have no access to family, I feel it is essential to have the bus and rail travel especially since I had to give up driving	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Surely the non-commercially viable bus services are the most important ones to continue subsidising? The commercially viable ones could pay for themselves but the non-commercial ones will be withdrawn by companies who don't want to lose money. This is a ridiculous proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sounds sensible but masks specific issues in rural areas. Poor access to public transport in our rural areas is a constant issue raised. Anything that makes things even worse for these communities will be detrimental on both individuals in these areas and the local economy as a whole. Need more detail.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I would reconsider this proposal as concessionary travel is a lifeline for people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Services are under utilised in my area as the service is so poor people use other transport!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think we just have to be clear that this is a car only part of the country. We'll end up with people trapped in their own homes though. What about a tram network? Think big, and go lobby for the funding. Open us up, don't close us down.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Murieston Circular is important as there is no other public transport available. The timetables on bus stops and the web should be updated to reflect the current bus times. If the times are not all advertised (as is the case now), the service will not be used.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Buses have been cut through Broxburn to two services which are not reliable and now folks struggle to get where they need to be.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus service is West Lothian is disgusting and you need to do more not less. Why can't people get to work or appointment or school on time buses not turning up or being extremely late	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport is required especially if want people to use their cars less but if not enough public transport then people will not reduce car use. Areas with less public transport use could still have buses running even if a reduced timetable. School buses should all be kept running for children as a safety aspect so they are with their friends and age appropriate people on the bus around them they may not feel safe when only 12, 13, 14 using public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Subsidising of well used met bus routes would seem appropriate and important. Less used could be justified savings	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concessionary travel is a must for certain people as its a means of getting out and about	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Removing buses must surely go against the fight to save our planet & reduce the amount of cars burning fossil fuels. How on earth will transport targets & West Lothian's green transport strategy be met if opportunities for more green travel such as buses are removed. This surely flies in the face of the Climate emergency that the Scottish government declared. Removing buses surely disadvantages the elderly & disabled who either can't drive or can't afford to. Try getting rid of the many many transport quangos and fat cat boards that dictate to local communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Need electricity buses on roads. and more bus routes	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Needs to be better promoted. Rural communities rely on cars as there isn't much option for buses/ trains due to infrequency and strikes	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Poor public transport services = more people using cars. Just take a ride peak time in Livingston.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Regular bus should be top priority for us working people. Taking off an important bus x27 is not good enough	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Dial a bus is ok for older people but what about the rest of us that need to travel from Whitburn to livi or the hospital we have to get on 2 buses. A shambles	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Who will this hit most - workers who needs to get to work, elderly and people who can't afford their own transport! Public transport needs to be more accessible and cheaper.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please don't remove the rail concessionary travel UNTIL X38 is sorted ie reliable and adequate frequency!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Cancel nothing! There are already not enough busses about at it is! We need more, not less!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We want to people to use more public transport but if you take away incentives they won't. There is also an issue with buses being unreliable especially since McGills took over the contract in West Lothian. Because of staff shortages buses are cancelled at short notice. If they are being relied on for work or appointments this will mean buses won't be used anymore. There should only be one operator like in Edinburgh City that is in effect a Council service not driven by profit. Routes should not be cut as it will be only the profitable ones that are kept. Bus companies use the profit they make on main routes to subsidise the routes to rural areas. ; It will impact some areas massively, many will be cut off if they don't have a car that need to get to hospital or don't have any shops.; Again you are asking for a comment without knowing the facts. How much does the Rail scheme cost? It probably doesn't have that much of a takeup so not that costly, but will be of value to those that use it. This needs a full review not one question.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Subsidy given for transport for convenience of the public must not be disturbed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Be very careful not to "TRAP" people in their own villages/areas, do not forget hospital appointments/visiting hours etc. Free bus passes are great, BUT only if there is a bus to use!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Stopping the current concessionary rail scheme will result in fewer older people taking advantage of the opportunity of leaving their homes, visiting other places and keeping more active.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus services have already be reduced in West Lothian making it difficult for people getting to and from work . Meaning people's safety is compromised if working night shifts etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Speaking personally I would really miss the concessionary rail scheme.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is an absolute joke! As a parent of a child with severe disabilities your transport department already is incompetent and causes stress every single year. Stop targeting the vulnerable!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	People in rural locations already have very few transport options and what there is doesn't tie in with trains arriving and a bus being available to complete a journey.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Cheaper bus and rail fares are sometimes the only way elderly people can get to shop for food and clothing when there are no shops in the area that cater for these things even if it means limiting the amount of times they can use the services to once or twice per week would be better than nothing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think this doesn't sound ideal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This would effect a lot of rural and smaller villages in the area. This might isolate community's and especially the elderly who rely on public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus services have already reduced and are inadequate leaving people with limited access	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some services may be under-utilised but they are a lifeline for those that use them. Do not cut bus services any further as it is the most disadvantaged that suffer when you do. They are experiencing enough hardship as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Raiol service concession provide an opportunity and improved quality of life for many elderly people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	older people not to lose concessionary travel	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Cutting subsidies to uneconomic bus routes will result in increase in car travel for those able to do so and social isolation for those unable to do so. Cutting concessionary rail travel will result in the senior / concessionary population being unable to access Glasgow and the golden jubilee hospital treatment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Do not agree with removing pensioner entitlement of concessionary rail fare to Edinburgh. As a carer of an Alzheimer sufferer, it is the one quick way to visit Edinburgh for us both.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Where has the encouragement to use public transport gone to? It is certainly disappeared in West Lothian. In a survey 3 years ago I suggested that the rail subsidy was removed as the bus service adequately gave folk transport. That has gone up the Swanee since then but if the bus service can be sorted the rail subsidy should be removed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I very much doubt that the council is serious in focusing on connected communities and business in a way that is affordable and effective. I feel they will just say we can't afford that and leave folk without their own transport very disadvantaged. Lothian buses used to provide a fairly good service in the area but in recent weeks it has become most unreliable. a 45-minute wait is becoming common and in a few weeks the number 280 service is being withdrawn. McGill who has taken over the First bus also have the buses missing and it feels like the bus companies are colluding on the times they take buses off the road. To their due WLC did provide a taxi bus service and that was replaced by SD travel no 6 Service. This doesn't work as the 29 coming back from up from Falkirk often arrives back in Avonbridge after the no6 returns to Westfield and onto Whitburn. If the buses connected folk would be able to get out into central Scotland without have to go via Edinburgh or Glasgow. Other routes to be considered is a bus to Bathgate another to Linlithgow and onwards from there either by bus to Falkirk or by Scotrail.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I cannot support the removal of any bus service in West Lothian, in fact we need to increase bus provision. I am fully aware of the current difficulties in providing services that are underused, but we need to reopen bus routes so that people can get to where they need to go when they need to get there. To achieve net zero, we must be able to offer a public transport service that enables people to give up their cars to get to their places of work and study, or leisure. Removing any public transport service at this crucial time is short-sighted and will have long-term negative impacts on community and environment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Services being unviable is the rationale for subsidising them in the first place. Bus routes must continue to be subsidised if the Edinburgh LEZ is to be implemented.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Don't cut buses are bad where I am. They don't turn up a lot. I am struck without them because I don't drive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Buses are terrible in WL. They are not regular or trustworthy as a lot of the time they don't turn up. I cannot plan or depend on them. Make better not worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	To all transport to get better and not cancel.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus services are poor at the moment. I can't depend on them and I have to make sure I get a bus as they don't turn up alot of the time. I can't afford a car so I will be stuck. Can't afford a taxi wither.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus service where I am are terrible at the moment with buses late or not at all. I am stuck without buses because I don't drive and less buses will make it worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Poor bus services at moment worse if there's some services stopped, I don't have a car and I will have to request lifts from family and friends - less independence for me. The council cuts to services will mean that I will not travel as much outside of my local area limiting my choices	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	definitely no to transport cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	absolutely no to transport cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	absolutely no to transport cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I didn't realise the council had a concessionary rail scheme	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Would these children/ parents have to pay for these?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Does this mean more an more bus routes cut	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Further detail/local consultation would be required before commenting	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Kids travel free on public transport but are charged to get to school and back?? School buses are being reduced- what about childrens safety?! Parents who work can't just leave work to go collect children	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	How would this look in practice? Which services would be cut?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	no opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No Comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't know enough about this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Nothing to add	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Unable to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't know enough about this to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Massive saving	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Without knowing the result of the review cannot comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I'm often confused when people comment that buses are underused. Of course they are.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I would be looking for more information on this as I live in a small bull with subsidised transport. We only have 1 bus an hour from 8.30 to 5.30. No Sunday service. This would greatly affect our whole village.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Maybe if the service was reliable it would not be under used. How can you ethically cut services and leave communities cut off?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	What does this mean? Elderly rely on bus and rail concessions	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't get a bus	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	no views on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Very difficult to comment without more detail	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Not enough detail to assess impact of changes proposed - generally not acceptable	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	No comments.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I use my own car so cant comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I do not use the bus network therefore I cannot comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sorry again we have do not have much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events, Leaving EU etc. My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If you make public transport and rail less accessible and costly how are you ever going to get people to use it?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	i hit oaps and disabled people typical tory /labour policy	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Didn't even know there was concessions on rail locally.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	How will this impact on climate change and reaching net zero?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Children from the age of 5	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport is a huge problem.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	A problem being older need public transport from my area in Howden. In November the x27 moving to craigshill area, we only have bus 26 to centre for shopping. Going to Edinburgh need to change over for Edinburgh Bus. My husband and I depend on Transport from howden area. One bus is no good every half hour. If missed have to wait in the cold over the winter months. Will we be given another bus coming to our area? We know it won't be easy for you to come to a decision	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This has to be based on need rather than utilisation. Where routes are removed (or subsidies are removed), what is the alternative for the community, or those who do use the services, and how do we maintain that access to transport at the same level of affordability for them? We can't isolate those who have no alternative but to make use of concessionary rail tickets either.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Utilisation of bus services is a challenge but understandable. For an extra-urban authority with a large rural element encouraging usage is tricky - on demand services are an interesting alternative. I struggle to see how individual car use can be discouraged while public transport availability falls below a critical mass - pushing more to cars.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Good and cheap public transport is essential and a lifeline for many people.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Involve those that currently use these services to ascertain why they use it (to get to work, to connect with other people, etc.). Is there an alternative they could use? Would cutting the current service negatively impact them?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again, this transport is required, for instance, getting young people to school/education to try and raise the attainment level and reduce the gap!	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It is cheaper to drive around west Lothian than take the bus, many would take the bus, however the fares are extortionate and there is no joined up thinking re connections to other town or train stations. This is consistently fed back to WLC yet no action is ever taken, hence many services are underused and what is the point of surveys.; We need buses that will connect people to train stations in Uphall, Livingston, Linlithgow so people can get to the cities,. There is no public transport between certain towns unless everyone has to bus to Livingston first. ; If i train Glas to Linlithgow, how do i get to East Calder, / West Calder / Mid Calder? ; If i train Edin to Uphall, how do i get to East Calder, / West Calder / Mid Calder? ; The infrastructure needs to be streamlined with connections that people actually need put in place.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This again hits those with lower incomes as they will rely on buses. Why not stop subsidising but give transport discounts to those on lower incomes?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If walkable paths / cycle routes were more available, then perhaps buses wouldn't be required so much (I know there is some work underway to remedy this in some areas).	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Full exploration of alternatives to be considered first	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This should be done on a town by town basis rather than a blanket scheme as what's 'viable' for one area may not be for others and could leave remote communities cut off for people who don't/can't drive.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This may cause low income person to struggle to access movement across the authority and beyond. Possible solution is to means test these provisions, those who can pay do pay, those who cannot receive subsidies travel.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	School transport must remain a high priority.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport services in outlying villages is unreliable. This needs to be investigated to allow ALL access to transport to places of employment/travel for appointments and socialising.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The whole point of publicly funded services is to provide for services that would not otherwise be commercially viable. If they were commercially viable private enterprise would provide them and public provision would not be required. Commercial viability is therefore a poor basis to judge services.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	School transport costs could be managed much more efficiently . I live close to a local school and have witnessed on one occasion 9 Taxis dropping children off at school, surely a minibus would be more cost efficient it could pick up more than one pupil and would also save staff hours?.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Working with places like Sustrans to create cycle, walking and running friendly routes would help.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a Cycling Walking and Safer Streets partnership with Sustrans and accessibility funding when made available.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Focus should be on green transport such as walking or cycling. This is cheaper to build and maintain than roads and car infrastructure.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a Cycling Walking and Safer Streets partnership with Sustrans and accessibility funding when made available.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Need to be move imaginative and innovative in our transport approach.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Priorities should be public transport for working people	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Would there not be an even more estimated saving if we reduced the amount of Taxi's that are used to return a young person home from school to put on the required uniform for that school	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus routes and services need a huge review. ; There's often buses going from the same area to the same destination.; There needs to be a a quick bus route from towns to Livingston.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If also means- tested (e.g pensioner bus passes based on annual income) then some savings could be made here. Rural connections are essential though.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport is a big weakness in West Lothian, as it's not particularly good (i.e. old buses, takes a long time to get to places) which is probably why people don't use it. Given that the highest Carbon emissions for West Lothian come from transport, I would think that this area actually needs substantial investment to ensure that WLC meets its carbon emissions targets.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	the bike shelters are totally inadequate for bikes and you really think many will park a £4k ebike there !!! with no security presence or cameras	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Bike shelters are standard installations, however the cost implications to install, maintain and manage security systems as suggested would not be cost effective.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	In addition, support for bus services needs to be increased not removed. Planned changes to Lothian Country services mean from November there will be no buses serving Eliburn. This will mean a 30 minute walk to the nearest bus stop at St John's. Please explain how the elderly and disabled will be able to manage that! This will massively impact access to essential community, education and medical services as well as food shopping. Totally unacceptable.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The transport in West Lothian is diabolical!! There is a HUGE requirement to invest here - NOT take away!	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Need more buses from everywhere to Livingston, as that is where everything is moved to! Again difficult for older, disabled people	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some older customers cannot/do not like driving, so public transport is a boon to them. Is consideration being given to the more public transport provision to rural and isolated areas of WLC's areas, which are a vital community lifeline?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Lack of PR on the Council's part. Also the only transport between Linlithgow and Livingston is the 31 bus which meanders through the ward. Surely a direct bus service is required?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concessionary rail scheme for younger people - similar to the bus/young Scot card travel - would be a positive inclusion.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Need to invest more into public transport if you are wanting to improve our carbon footprint - you cant take public transport away or reduce it then expect people not to use cars to get to places.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Elderly disabled and kids transport on bus and train to be protected. Disagree with taking away train concessions for elderly...this should be open to kids too they should get free train transport	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	West lothian bus services isn't the best to so maybe rather than cut services you need to look at a streamlinecand also the night services running back from Edinburgh	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Buses are nigh on non-existent and barely run. We need more, not less! Then they'd get used.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think their should be a budge given for child that need to pay for school bus to get to primary as stay far away but if only like small amountnvif distance you have no resources I currently need to pay nearlyv£7 a week for my 5 year old to get school bus as I have Asmara abd I can't do that hill everyday 4 times a day up and down but cost of bus is shocking think this area should be looked at even a small reduced rate of buse fair but £7 a week is alot to any parents single or nit	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If a household with a disabled child has a mobility car why is this not used to transport son or daughter to and from school?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transition is needed here - please don't alienate those who need transport - survey the passengers on these routes and ask them what they need - accessible taxis - supermarkets providing funded mini-buses - help from charities??	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I feel we could improve public transport to work as i travel by bus to work sometimes and feel the service isn't that good as I end up being late for work which isn't good I am always good at timekeeping but I feel the public transport lets me down	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some of the villages cannot be reliant on public transport as it doesn't always show. When people have commitments and they cannot get to work etc, when they expect to be able to travel, causes issues.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	we need a smart transport system not multiple 90 -100% empty busses running round the same roads at the same time just because the end destination is different get on 1 on common part and change to get to final destination. ;	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Feedback that I have had re Handicabs and Dial a ride are that the service has deteriorated with customers unable to book in advance and a lack of booking availability etc - It seems that these services are now provided at least partly by volunteer drivers who are not reliable as "employed" drivers and passengers are unable to build rapport as they keep changing.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Having smaller buses on rural routes... Also the reason people don't use the buses are two fokd: firstly, the timetable is rubbish. Not early enough for work or colleges depending on route. Secondly, the cost. IEven on subsidised route the cost is extortionate. £1.80 singke for mile.. You need smaller electric buses but without spending a fortune....	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Utilise your underutilised bus route... Consolidate services accessed by these bus routes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't make use of public buses as I find it far too confusing having only lived in West Lothian since March. Maybe look into simplifying that	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Alderstone Road particularly is an area where plenty of people drive but could take the bus instead, what are the plans for helping this behaviour change to happen?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	All West Lothian citizens should have a chance to be consulted before bus routes are changed or cancelled as for some, they will be a life line.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I thought the council wanted to reduce car use - any reduction in buses will mean that more people use their cars more so I don't understand how this would work. I do think that offering taxis for children to go to school could be stopped instantly. I also don't really know why children who now have free bus travel anyway need a school bus - surely a bus pass means that they could use the normal bus service and that would stop the huge costs of providing school buses that have no other function.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public engagement. Not everybody knows about services etc.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If bus services are being removed, you must ensure that there is a suitable alternative for those who rely on the buses.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We live in Armadale and have kids with ASN. I hope they will become more independent as they grow. The bus service in Armadale is dire. The journey to Edinburgh takes 1.5 hours! It does limit options for those who will perhaps never be able to drive. Surely with environmental concerns it would be better to have a reliable and actually usable public transport network. That way everyone gets a chance to reach their potential. Also as someone with older teen with a disability this is the first I've heard of a West Lothian rail scheme. We rarely use the train due to cost. Young Scot discount is not much and purchasing a disabled railcard is not cost effective for the small saving. Would have been nice to know about this and have a chance to benefit from it.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Buses are essential for persons to get to from work and should be promoted for use as an effective environment tool to reducing carbon footprint also reducing road traffic as a result of more people used the services. Then subsidising would be cost effective. Where as at the moment it's still cheaper to buy petrol than a bus ticket.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Working with the elderly will be a massive part of this work so that they can still get out of the house and do their shopping	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Supply buses that pick them up if need be as part of a route especially for people who can't drive but stop the private taxis!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Instead of removing services completely why not remove service during low usage times and allow service to continue and keep communities connected	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Transport across West Lothian is poor especially for outlying areas such as Blackridge/Breich, how do you propose to support these areas. Handicabs and dial-a-ride are good for older people but what about young families who cannot afford their own transport and rely on buses.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We maintain bus routes to town centres but don't restrict car usage. Make it harder to use a car in central locations and buses will be fast because they won't be held up in meaningless traffic, therefore more time efficient. It's a 100% fact spending goes up in areas with low car use as pedestrians spend more time visiting, which correlates to spending money.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	There needs to be an honest impacts discussion linked to all these ideas. Will this be forthcoming?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is a sore one. West Lothian is not particularly well connected between north and south. But if we can't afford buses driving around empty then we need to find something better. Could West Lothian develop a car-sharing initiative?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As I can afford it at present I am happy that concessionary schemes are being looked at and would be willing to pay a small sum to the cost of travel when using public transport	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Is there a way of making it more cost effective	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Removing bus services that are not commercially viable is also better for the environment, dial-a-ride / community buses would be more sensible.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This will be a loss to the local's that rely on the bus services however putting on other services to those most in need is a positive outlook, provided there is sufficient availability for people to use them. ; It should be considered though that people may not like the stigma attached to using the services which would indicate to other's that they have underlying issues (health etc).	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus routes must be made viable, a lot are under-utilised. The concessionary rail scheme is a luxury and Senior Rail cards could be purchased instead or use the buses.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We should review services to ensure the users accessing the services are covered without wastage in terms of funding and staffing.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We need to ensure that people, especially the elderly and disabled, who do not have access to private transport are not forgotten when underutilised bus routes are removed.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Why not charge a small fee to enable some subsidiaries to continue to provide a life line to some communities	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	BUS SERVICES ARE UNDERUTILISED BECAUSE THEY NEVER TURN UP ON TIME. LOVE HAVING MY BUS PASS BUT WOULD BE PREPARED TO PAY 50PENICE.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The council should consider running the public transport system in the manner of Lothian Regional Transport to ensure communities are not left behind and cars are kept off the road as per the Climate Crisis needs. Underutilised services often means that they are poorly strategised and not integrated into the needs of all.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Introduce a council bus for staff - staff to contribute to cost - reduce omissions	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	an Electric bus that picks up council workers	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please ensure that you do not cut off communities and make it hard for people to get to their employment if they do not work 08:00 -18:00.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	bus services are vital for people getting to work/college etc - so timing of new services would be crucial	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	More money could be generated, and services improved, if WLC followed other authorities like East Lothian, in introducing tariffs and overstay charges for the newly installed EV charging infrastructure. At present it is nigh on impossible to use the lovely new chargers because people abuse them by parking their car on the rapid charger and then leaving them until the next day. Those who are on a journey or who can't install a charger at home are prevented from using the facilities by those who could charge at home but want to get free motoring courtesy of the council tax payer. Overstay charges would prevent this and free up chargers for use as has happened in Edinburgh, midlothian and East Lothian.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If the council could generate enough electricity, then electric vehicles would save on fuel bills	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Travel by public transport is already an issue for some, so whilst a review is applauded, careful thoughts is required. This is particularly true of cross county boundary services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Problems for rural areas. Could school transport for older children be provided on standard buses given that children are now entitled to a free bus pass?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I would be concerned that some will be left feeling isolated if the subsidised routes are cut but if the Dial-a-Ride scheme and other options are communicated well then hopefully this will mitigate this issue.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	WLC needs to provide cost effect travel to Edinburgh through subsidising. These bus routes are busy and viable. There is a real issue that getting to the hospital is a nightmare from some of the major towns, this shouldnt be the case. An examination of how you can provide this service is required and if you can provide this without subsidising then that is fine.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport routes are vital to those who do not have access to car or are trying to reduce carbon footprint when journeys can't be undertaken by foot or bike. Some routes are not used as vehicles are old and outdated and the timetables very restrictive. Affordable, 'green' alternatives would be most welcomed.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	There is still a need for public transport services. So it would need a lot of careful consultation with those who use them. Maybe use smaller and more economic vehicles.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Support refocusing the transport strategy on concessionary bus, Handicaps and Dial-a-Ride, and removing subsidies for bus routes, The Scottish Government does not provide any funding to councils for this purpose and it is not sustainable for this subsidy to be funded solely by council tax payers in West Lothian.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It is important that any changes are consistent with addressing the climate crisis agenda and continuing to support the viability of smaller communities across West Lothian.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	A decent bus service linking communities would allow people to seek work, make sure train and bus times align, work with Falkirk, North/South Lanarkshire, city of Edinburgh to share resources	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I would support increasing the concessionary rail fares, but not their removal - that could be a false economy, with elderly people less encourage to maintain their health by getting out and about.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Smaller buses on some routes rather than larger buses with only a few folk on might be a good idea	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think I addressed part of this earlier. However instead of taxis and escorts being hired use school mini-buses with one escort in each of these buses.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It is important that all services are not withdrawn from small communities as some people do not have their own transport. Could smaller minibuses not be used Instead on underutilised routes to reduce running costs without removing the service. You often see big busses with nobody on them in the early hours of the morning especially.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus routes are essential for remote villages, so adjustments to timetables would be sensible rather than complete removal of a bus route.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Your services are often under utilised as they do not meet likely requirements of potential users and are additionally unreliable. Work should be done to properly asses viability of properly run routes (having account of peak demand, which should be understood not to necessarily correspond to existing services) and consider providers who abuse a system e.g. what incentive is there for a driver who knows that their is rarely anyone looking to board on a particular route to keep to a timetable if they can complete the run quicker and have an extra 30 min break at the end. Particular care should be had on this proposal as there is a very real risk that communities can become disconnected. I would have significant reservations in trusting parties currently responsible for policy or management in this area to get this particular brief right.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please consider ensuring reliable and comprehensive bus services. Unavailability of buses will lead to increased car use. which contributes to climate change/ pollution.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Make people pay more for the transport rather than make cuts?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Proceed carefully and do not create inequality in which people in poverty or who have accessibility issues face tougher times accessing essential services and jobs.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	More routes to be considered. and you introduced the bus to the airport buses to the airport. Buses to the local country parks to be introduced	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	more buses from Kirkliston to Livingston. more poverty friendly. buses to country parks to help children become more active	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	direct shorter bus route from Winchburgh to broxburn	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Winchburgh more buses to route for growing community	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I would like better transport links from Whitburn West End to all surrounding areas.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again the people who have no access to their own vehicle penalised, If you look European models we could drive this forward but as usual Scotland talks but no action.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Council services have been removed form Linlithgow and transferred to Livingston. Yet the public transport from Linlithgow and Livingston is abysmal and is only that provided by 31 bus. It is not surprising that most people go by car! Is Linlithgow recognised by the West Lothian Council?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The elderly NEED reliable transport links as not everyone has their own transport, however companies such as Horsburgh are NOT the answer as buses are wrecks and completely unreliable	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	miroslava cervenakova	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Your planners have permitted the expansion of towns like Winchburgh with hundreds of houses but no integrated transport provision. ; The bus service is unreliable so people cannot depend on it so won't use it; this leads to figures that indicate a not commercially viable service. Transport service licences should include conditions on reliability before assessing whether something is viable. ; Also train station promised for Winchburgh has not materialised despite demand being high	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Agreed in discussion with existing bus operators, can a route be altered to make it more viable for example buses terminating at Blackridge, could the route be altered that would take in harthill and whitburn and make the service more viable.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Many services are underutilised because it is not a seamless system. Equally there is no direct route to Glasgow or Edinburgh airport which will have a negative impact on Livingston in particular economy	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	and maybe if people would confront the wee (redacted) destroying shelters by kicking out the perspex or burning the bins or you put a camera on nearby lampposts to look for this shit so it gets stoppped.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Members of public are encouraged to report any crime or vandalism in the community to the Police.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	impose a max fee on taxis so they are not ripping off people who need them	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	the over 65 need their bus passes ,Not too happy about young ones with their passes,we had to pay out of our wages at that age or walk?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As someone who travels across West Lothian to work, I have just discovered that Lothian Buses (the only bus company whose fare prices I can afford) is withdrawing from the area in 10 days. I now have to decide whether to quit my job because I cannot afford the only competitors bus fares, or ask for a reduction in working days so I can afford travel costs. I cannot walk 3.5 hours to my job and train options are not viable physically or monetarily. I cannot understand how these routes are underused - most of the days I travel it can be standing room only on my routes. We SHOULD charge for children and OAP's. That is why bus companies are failing. Instead of cutting links between towns, cut out the pointless local town services.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It takes me 2 buses and a 45 minute journey to get the 8 minute drive to my work. Here is your answer. Fix this, you fix the under utilisation of the routes	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Having a usable bus service that actually runs on time and it disabled friendly. 1 Bus from Dedridge to St John's Hospital...9 mins the others 40+ minutes	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	School busses and elderly free passes should stay and not be given to the young who can walk or pay for the services.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some routes are under-utilised due to the fact the services are either late or no shows at all!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It is my understanding that all parking (or almost all parking) at rail stations is inadequate. Perhaps if this was better, more spaces, perhaps more would utilise it?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public services are already struggling massively with shortages of drivers which is having a negative impact. My partners relies on buses to get around work as a social care worker and often has buses late, not turning up or cancelled. Some services have just changed and are cutting out towns with routes that are absolutely needed.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I dont use the bus much but when I do find them very unreliable re timings or even turning up	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	My mum already can't get a bus to her work in the mornings as the service was added this is because there are no bus drivers make the service better and people will use them more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is the price of 'free' bus travel!!! We all know it's not free and a bus pass is no use to anybody if there's no bus service. Charge a small fee to all and prevent social isolation.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I have found the bus service to be very unpredictable with busses often never turning up at all.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The so called bus service has been shocking for years and getting worse. If you could make buses run when they are supposed to and get us to work and home without standing an hour that would be great.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	How can we use public transport anyway ? Its unreliable!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It takes an unacceptable 45 minutes to travel to Livingston from armadale.; The bus service is being reduced already but the bus is often so busy that there is folk standing, therefore suggesting at times this is not under-utilised.; There needs to be an express direct service. ; If you want people to use public transport it needs to be an easy, efficient, reliable, cheap service	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus well ghost busses nevet show turn up.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus routes are already too low in some areas and are unreliable on a regular basis. Companies need to be held accountable for poor service and funding withdrawn.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is redoc. Public transport is a joke! Costs more for 1 person to travel a journey than the petrol would cost. Busses never on time and never reliable. Always dirty too.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	There is no transport strategy for residents of Kirknewton traveling to and from Edinburgh. Unlike x27 which is on time almost always, x28 fails to be in time most of the time and is over priced. Residents have raised it many times, the quality of x28 has got worse and worse and worse. Now it's a lottery if and when the bus arrives at all - the tracker doesn't correspond to what's happening on the ground - suggest the Greens instead of adding more bins get seriously involved in ensuring the residents from Kirknewton or East Calder have reliable and affordable services as options to car use.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public transport continues to be too expensive country wide - take away all funding and build better path networks	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Probably necessary. Concessionary schemes could be means tested to avoid unfairness.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As a bus user, a big factor in the underutilization of services on a daily basis is the unpredictability of them. We need to be able to trust a bus will turn up when we need to get to an appointment etc. ; ; Concessionary bus travel is essential to many.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Consider review of when free bus passes are given out. Retirement age is 66, bus passes given at 60, so they are being used to get to work. ; Don't have a problem with the removal of rail benefits.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The services are underutilised because they are infrequent and unreliable. Check Murieston area for example. The providers do not seem answerable or the service supervised in order to ensure it is providing what it was paid for. A well run reliable service will be used.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Why not charge £1 for dial a ride and handicaps. These are door to door services and would be a good source of income.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please consider not everyone has a car for ease of transport, we have to rely on public transport but they are not reliable and you can't always get to where you need to go. The services to St John's Hosp are terrible.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	as transport initiatives are also implemented from a Scottish Government perspective, there should be revenue streams provided from the SG for vulnerable adults, and those with a bus pass, etc	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The present Handicaps and Dial-a-Ride schemes would appear to be unaffordable in their present form and should be reviewed, the present service offered to the over 60 should not be removed	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Would it be possible to look at a digital strategy for car sharing to help on non-viable routes. It is understandable that one person using a bus is not value for money, but they do still need to get to their place of work and other modes of transport like Taxi are not financially viable to them.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	If public transport was more affordable more residents would use it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Perhaps the free bus pass for over 60's could be means tested.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Free passes excellent, alternative charge a minimum of 50p or £19 or £20 a year a nominal fee.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Large buses appear to be regularly underused. Is there a benefit in reducing size of vehicles, recognising that staff costs would remain. Is there a benefit in reducing vehicle size so that lower grade of driving licence can be permitted.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Although there are many uneconomic bus services, how many people will be trapped in their own town without access to key services in other parts? Will the other initiatives be able to fill the gap? And if not, by how much?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus services out this way (Calderwood) are not fit for purpose. The service is unreliable and very stressful. Twice this week the X27 has not turned up at morning rush hour - my husband had to wait nearly 2 hours to get a bus in to work.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Some of the richest people I know use their bus passes when they could afford to pay a bit. Too many subsidies, no wonder routes aren't viable. For a full paying fare the buses can be expensive.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Another recent problem is that routes X24 and 26 have recently been too full, resulting in drivers refusing to let passengers board - resulting in a lot of waiting time for passengers including school children	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Eliburn is served by X24 and X27. Of this X24 service is erratic and X27 appears set to go away in November. Would it be possible to mandate both services for Eliburn even if the fare has to be slightly higher.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus services are vital parts of our community. The council must work with bus operators in any review of networks. The commercial network should be the main focus with the council only having to support in a way that gets passengers to the main network. Right now in West Lothian, a large council owned company is running duplicate operations across a long serving commercial operation. Completely wasteful use of resources and it's unsustainable. Whilst it might look good to see so many buses operating in the area the fact is the network demand is not there to meet the number of buses operating sometimes within a few minutes of another bus. This model can only cause long term damage. The impact could be felt by the council as commercially viable routes disappear due to duplication on main corridors. These will end at some point and the council could have huge holes in the network to fill when the dust settles.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I have battled for bus services in my area since the eighties. First Bus were useless and their drivers were very rude with people on occasion. Things improved with Lothian Country but now they are becoming as unreliable as First/McGills. There are already cuts to bus services beginning on November 20th and I for one am very angry about it. The x27 will no longer travel the route through Dedridge West as in up round by Nigel Rise, Crofthead, Talisman, Staunton etc. Elderly people living in the area of Staunton/ Talisman Rise etc will have no bus service to Edinburgh. This is a ridiculous state of affairs. We are the largest town next to Edinburgh. You say many of the bus services are underutilised, well everytime I am on a Lothian Country x27 or x28 the buses are packed. Reason being there are usually buses that do not turn up. When a bus service becomes unreliable, people tend to stop going for that bus or walk to another stop, so of course it looks like the buses are under utilised. West Lothian is in many areas, still a rural county and people depend on a bus service, especially for doctors/hospital appointments and shopping. I use the bus service frequently for collecting my grandchild from school. I will now have an extra 20 minute walk to another bus stop, so that I can get a bus to East Calder to collect my grandchild. This is because the x27 will no longer serve Nigel Rise. You go on about Climate Change, leave your car at home, use the bus, save energy etc. How can you leave your car at home when the bus service is taken away? The decision to take away the x27 from the Nigel Rise/ Dedridge West route is saving the company or the council how much exactly? I can only speak for the area I live in, but what I will say is, give us a decent, reliable bus service with buses arriving on time and we will use it. Yesterday, going into Edinburgh it took me an hour and a half on the bus to get from Dedridge to Edinburgh, it was ridiculous and the faffing about at Kirknewton with get on the next bus etc. The driver apologised as this next bus was half an hour late and it was just about standing room only. How can you say the buses are underutilised, when they are not even turning up at all? The public transport in West Lothian has been dire for years, and I know because I fought for decent services from the eighties, when I needed to get the bus into Edinburgh for work. You need a public consultation regarding public transport and you need to do it and	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	So, let the oil companies and govt charge us unconscionable rates for fuel for our cars, to encourage us on to public transport? What public transport?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The cost of taxis needs to be looked at.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I want to buy a bus season ticket as I do a season senior train ticket. I would not like to lose my train pass.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Carr before horse needs to be considered. Why not make it easier to use busses and cycle networks and harder to drive....Livingston is very car heavy with lots of parking despite so many people being within a walk of a bus to visit. Make parking too expensive, cocking easy And the bus a better option.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The reason many are under utilised is simply because they are currently not good enough. This is the case across the whole of the UK. A fully functioning and integrated transport system (as in Germany) is paid for by the way it allows the public to get to work, to shops, restaurants, to the doctors, to school, to job centres... A system that offers any less than this will of course not be used. Especially if it is expensive. And especially not if they have their own mode of transport. But if you can't afford to run it, you can't afford to run it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Public Transport is too expensive and unreliable.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The train service needs improved. I can't get a train at the weekend in the morning. Why do they start late morning? Do you want people to drive?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Buses need to run on time then probably more people would use them. Also you need to run a huge advertising campaign (Facebook would do if you don't want to spend money) encouraging the use of public transport. I have relatives all over the country and everywhere I visit have better transport systems and links. Let's not forget not everyone can or wants to walk and cycle to where they want to go.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	More bus services should be put in place to connect towns in West Lothian and additional bus services to Glasgow are necessary. Current services like the 280, x18 and x25 should run more frequently. The government should fund bus apprenticeships or other schemes to encourage more drivers, and pay bus drivers more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	making subscription	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	lower age on bus passes	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	reduce the age of young scot card to 20 and make a council bus for employees	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	reduce the age on the free bus pass NIC so the buses will make back money; ; companies should make their own company bus for their employees	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	making it a subscription for the busses	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Electric busses	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Pity about the 280!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Means test free bus travel for the elderly. My parents both benefit from this and have the means to pay, they do not 'need' this benefit. It would be better to retain it for young people to encourage their use of public transport and for others who cannot afford it.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Sell your shares in Lothian buses as they are removing half the routes anyway and leaving folk with a shell of a bus service. How do you expect to get folk out of cars on our congested streets with cuts to bus services and funding?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I think the Council should lobby the Scottish or UK Governments, if necessary, to look at a change in the free bus pass scheme. ; As the retirement age has increased the age at which a person can apply for a bus pass should also rise in alignment.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The bus services in West Lothian are diabolical anyway. The X27 service for example is now going to parrot the X28 route almost for its entirety. Yet WLC have said or done nothing!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	complete overhaul of bus routes is required. bus operators should be more strictly monitored and penalised if agreed service is sub standard.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The free buses for under 22's is a fantastic idea ! I don't have the need for it but appreciate that many other do and it appears to be well utilised.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	A scenic Heritage Tramway around the entire County of West Lothian would be literally printing money.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The public transport within West Lothian is a joke when the bus companies run their service within one minute of each other, then people have to wait for an hour, especially at night	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Buses to Edinburgh from West Calder should be available during rush hour time. Living on the A71 and having to get a bus to the centre to get another to Edinburgh our capital city is beyond me. I also strongly recommend that there should be better communication for services running late or cancelled and consequences for buses that do not show up	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Get the supermarkets to fund buses around their locale - they have been the cause of the demise of the high street - the least they could do is ensure that customers can get to and fro around town.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus service (X38) in Winchburgh is poor and when are we getting the train station - an actual clear update is required for residents	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	A review of the time tables would probably help with this.; The buses often leave the railway station one or two minutes before the train is due to arrive.....Why? Re-align the time-tables - it would make a lot more sense.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	What wrong with providing an Uber like service ?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I know of some services that are definitely underutilised as their timetable results in the bus stopping at a simliar time to another service. That means, whichever bus arrives first, gets all the passengers - so a service running only minutes after another will look as if it is unused when, in fact, it is just that its timetables doesnt make sense. My 80 year old mother periodically travels to West Calder for healthcare visits etc and often asks me to take her there and back. Going is often ok but the return can sometimes leave her waiting almost an hour for a bus (due to the way services have been timetabled). Every bus stop should have live bus info - or at least clearly show the number/website where people can get that info.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I strongly feel that elderly rely on subsidised buses to get them out and about meeting up with others possibly a small charge say 50p or £1 with the bus pass might help.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The west end of Dedridge is once again about to be affected by the removal of an essential bus service, the number 27 bus to Edinburgh, which I think stops running this route on 20th November 2022? This is an essential service for anyone who doesn't drive or have access to a vehicle. This has happened previously, but the service was reinstated, much to the delight of those who live on this side of the town. That means that all bus services to Edinburgh passing through the bus station head in an easterly direction and the west side of Livingston is left un-serviced. This can't be allowed to happen again.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	free passes to the under 25 should be stopped now .	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Looking at cost- more people might use the services	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	1. Fast and long route trains.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	4. Easy access to bus and train station.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The whole bus system is shot. Buses .dont show, they do not run when and where you want them too. A couple of commuter buses that run around livingston would do well. Like the number 9abc horsborough bus in murieston.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Make getting into Edinburgh and Livingston easier in other ways e.g. parking at tram stops, train stops, park and rides into town that's a bit cheaper.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Reduce public transport ticket price and more people will automatically switch.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Bus tracking apps are excellent but imperfect. I appreciate these will be third party owned but any improvement you can elicit there may offset impact of service reduction.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	There is no public transport, can't catch a bus	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Scotland has the most expensive rail and bus tickets in Europe and so the solution is to remove subsidies. Luxembourg recently introduced free bus travel across the country for everyone. Interesting to see how two small countries are tackling the same problem.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Services may be underused and yet a vital lifeline. It's important that this doesn't lead to rural communities being cut off completely	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Luckily I ma not affected by this, but I would imagine more remote communities needing some kind of provision.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	transport is so important when someone does not have a car	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concerned when I reach retirement there shall be nothing left at all.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't have experience of this to comment but would be concerned for those who currently use this service.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I have to drive my disabled child around and have not tried the schemes and don't know much about them however I'm sure they are valuable to many.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It is ironic that this section is titled '4 Environment, Climate Change and reducing energy use'. How can the council claim to take climate change seriously, while pursuing policies that will lead to less public transport, and so force people to use cars more? This is also very isolating for people who do not have cars, and especially for those living in more rural/less accessible parts of West Lothian.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	It would not be right to offer feedback without a sound understanding of the services this relates to and the im0act on its service users.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	We are doomed if we apply standard cost cutting methodologies to fighting climate change.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	My wifes bus to Livingston is packed every day she uses it. The 276 is being withdrawn due to being underutilised. Now she has the option of McGills and if that bus doesn't turn up she'll have to walk 6 miles to work and back every day.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I hope you dont expect my autistic daughter to get 2 buses to school that is outside blackburn for her school starting at 8.3am. The council demolished blackburn academy so my daughters chatchment school is bathgate, blackburn doesnt have a direct bus to it so there is no way my she would get on 2 buses. 😞	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This sounds draconian. Many rely on concessionary fares.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Essential service	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	i tippical lab /con hit the oaps and disabled as per ueual	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	now have bus passes for older children who can travel themselves but younger children and people with mobility problems i think this should still be in place.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concerned for older school children who live in more rural villages not having a bus service for them to get about especially as they have been given free bus travel recently by the Government	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This is lacking	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Maybe services are underutilised owing to the poor frequency of the service? In other words, it's not a convenient option for people.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Not sure I understand removing subsidies for all non-commercially viable routes. If a route is commercially viable then presumably it doesn't need a subsidy, so is this saying that all bus subsidies will be removed? Doesn't sound good for some of the smaller communities	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again not telling which routes or reducing the subsidies are as yet again I am unable to comment on this. You are not telling us enough information.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Unviable bus routes are the difference between someone getting to work or not, please make sure that you are not stranding some communities.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Once again, vulnerable groups are suffering.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	that will have a big impact on elderly	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Again, bus provision is important. It can't be denied that certain routes are 'underutilised' but there may be a minority demand that should be recognised. The reduction of concessionary rail travel to 'national schemes' isn't great but might be palatable; and I don't know how much it is used.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	In general, I believe that bus services are under utilised because they are so unreliable. I would be happy to use more public transport if I thought it was actually going to turn up.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	bus service is a joke right now with buses not showing or canceled the whole day near enough	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	At the moment the busses are very unreliable and with reduced number of taxi services since the pandemic it needs to be more reliable.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Well, I will just have to invest in a new car. Fabulous incentive to be environmentally friendly. How about investing in a future?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Do not understand last sentence - "The council would also propose to remove concessionary rail schemes with are in additional to existing national schemes.";	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	This may isolate some people.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Please retain the murieston route as it is essential	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Yes, no matter if we are disabled or not, we still have to pay, right? For god sake?!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Concerned this could increase isolation for older people	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Could have better transport system	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	More efficient bus and train services	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	Wow, this is depressing	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4B Reprioritised Passenger Transport Strategy	All members of the public including young people must have reliable accessible transport system	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Taxi etc should also be stopped	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Public Transport Unit keep school transport provision under constant review and identify savings where it is possible to implement them. Schools only use taxis where necessary to support effective delivery of the curriculum, or the welfare of a child or young person.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Could work but may need a trail first as may cause issues to public travel?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is a good idea. I have already seen an increase in our community in the number of children using public transport to get home (currently within the 2 mile radius) Use of the NEC cards would be a good saving for local authorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	They should use commercial buses	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed, where applicable use existing bus services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Bikes and walking buses - better organised routes (nominal payment?) incentivise walking for youngsters?.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Think we should utilise free bus transport as this is already subsidised by the government.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	make it the statutory levels let parents get children to school	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is long overdue. I totally support moving to the statutory legal minimum for school transport, especially now that bus travel is free for young people. This should take priority over reducing support for general bus services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Maintaining the present cut-off for free transport is unsustainable. It does not accord with other aspirations such as carbon reduction air pollution control, physical activity, physical fitness, and p[romoting use of alternative transport methods.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Falling back to government standards can only be supported if funding is so tight now.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	well since travel in now free for upto 21 year olds, school buses could be reduced	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again let school pupils educate themselves using public transport to and from school ; Primary kids still need transport	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Its okay for kids to walk to school as long as there are safe paths or cycle paths	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Moving to statutory provision makes sense. Not sure what potential impacts free bus travel will have on this for older children anyway. Could reduce the secondary provision at least.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	yes completely agree with this! (as long as there are sufficient public bus options)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree, children should walk, it's good for their mental health.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Do it. If it can be made more efficient, go ahead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No objections	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Support and agreement for this approach; which in many instances will help encourage safe and active travel	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is an excellent idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Yes cancel the school transport, plenty of service buses	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School buses are helpful, but if there is a public bus the kids can use then I think that would be fine to use as well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems fair, so long as pulis ad not refused travel on commercial routes. However, many school buses go straight passed the bus stops so not sure how you can make savings.. Only ever see the secondary pupils catching the bus very few primary. This day and age 2 and 3 miles is a lot and Dan be dangerous especially in dreich weather	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Distances in west lothian don't necessarily have commercial bus routes (e.g. kirknewton to balerno) so this review would need to be considering logistics and individual safety and not just distance	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	So, does this mean the young person's National Entitlement card will remain in place? If so, it might set back some of the problems for young adults but what about other adults and the elderly?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As long as there's a service to get children from their homes to school the new bus passes would cover travel anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If the children all get the young persons national entitlement scheme this sounds a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Apply the statutory limits for buses. (There may be a pickup point nearby that those that fall within the 2 mile / 3 mile route could utilise but would require them to walk to such a destination but is close enough to justify?)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Remove free school buses. The system is badly run.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Easy to achieve if you get rid of separate Catholic schooling	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The schools transport with Taxis is just a joke!! If people chose to live in a remote area then it's up to them to get the kids to school. I agree there is a need for buses but not taxis seen this abused so many times.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As above. The transport should be looked at. I was told if a taxi picks up a child and they are late coming out. If the driver leaves the school grounds and has to return within a few minutes it's a double charge. Terrible waste of money. Over a million reported in the papers paid to a dodge taxi company in Livingston!! That where the money is going.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	statutory requirement should be what's provided	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree strongly with this proposal. Given the challenges to fund council services, this must be reduced to statutory limits in line with most other areas of Scotland.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	pupils will benefit from walking or cycling to school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Since the introduction of the Young Persons National Entitlement scheme this proposal seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Quality stuff thanks	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree - if the Scottish Government doesn't provide sufficient funding, the council can only afford to do the statutory minimum and nothing more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Perhaps children could walk to school All children have bus passes that can be utilised therefore no need for a school bus.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ok as long as those who are vulnerable are looked after	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Free travel on the normal busses would be great as long as there is a service provided that works to the same times the children would need.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would be fine if the public buses were in any way a reliable method of travel.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This seems reasonable providing there is an acceptably safe route to walk to and from school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Acceptable as helps children take ownership of travel needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Providing commercial buses have capacity, and route regularity.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Maybe positive move...what about safety?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Cautiously I agree. But no child should have to walk 3 miles to get to school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I do however agree that anyone who is outside their own school catchment should not get subsidised transport as that is a matter of personal choice.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good, should start with stopping the concessions to private bus companies so they're not polluting the atmosphere with ancient buses picking up school kids and giving them asthma	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sorry - should have read this one first - seems like a plan - should be able to get a normal bus by the time they are at secondary school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As long as there are appropriate local buses though	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	ok - so long as this doesn't endanger school pupils travelling to and from school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is a good idea for secondary schools as long as there is sufficient provision for walking and cycling, yet the council has been putting speed limits in urban areas up from 20 to 30. Walking more is great, with many benefits, but it is to be safe, particularly during the winter when kids are walking in the dark. Bringing back the 20 speed limits would be a great start, along with more cycle lanes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The annual Accident Investigation and Prevention programme delivers casualty reduction and improves road safety.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I believe this to be true. Most families drive and even children who get free rides everywhere in Scotland still do not use public transport as often as possible. However, the school services is a different situation. If the council provides direct links (only 1 bus journey) to school then I believe it is viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Reduce the amount of pupils being taxied around..save a fortune.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed. Don't think I ever got subsidized transport to school!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sounds fine. Make it possible for kids to use active travel. Make safe spaces for kids and secure places for travel equipment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	couldn't the new free under 22 bus scheme be used where a public service bus is already taking the same or similar route, for secondary school kids at least.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree, particularly where parents opt for out of area school placements (denominational schools), this should be the responsibility of the parent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree with this as long as the child as the YSC which would mean no additional costs to the family.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Completely agree, it's nonsense for the Council to be funding this when buses are free for young people. Obviously it will be necessary to maintain specialist transport for children with learning disabilities or physical disabilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It is important that our children get to school safely and feel that what is being proposed supports the school transport strategy. The Young Persons national entitlement scheme is very much welcomed and will promote student independence.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Provided service buses operate regularly on these routes then this could work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems reasonable, money-wise, but what about all the buses you're going to cancel? What will the youngsters use their free bus pass on?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Using your Young Scot card for smaller group school outings, yes would be good and would save you money, would not be annoying the public as it wouldn't be constant! Would also help some kids get used to a bus!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Use public transport as it is free (for under 22s) and remove school bus altogether.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This does not seem necessary, or at least should be subsidised not free.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This has been the case for years me and my family has this with public transport when we were at school	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems sensible if there is a commercial bus route available and there is free travel for children and young people. Younger pupils though may find this difficult.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This sounds acceptable although I don't have much experience of it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School transport is rubbish. Just run regular buses at key times and let kids pay or use Young Scot cards	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed that the national entitlement scheme is a good alternative.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Happy with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree most kids do live within walking distance. Have always thought if its a well lit route and not isolated and unsafe then kids should walk. Buses are an unnecessary part of school life.; Public transport could be used as all kids have free passes anyway. This way the environment would benefit and kids can get exercise if walking distance is viable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I also think you have to look at the children who are taxing as I'm sure this costs a lot of money also	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	school bus service. Is good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Yes, there is a need for this service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems fair enough in saving costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree. it's done elsewhere	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No issues with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I would agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Yes agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Reasonable proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Reasonable proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	walking is good exercise	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Yes that is required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree on the whole.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree with proposals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree to this, pupils should be travelling to the nearest school or use the existing bus routes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree that provision should be within Statutory requirements.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I totally agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree that this would save money and if there is public buses then kids could use these	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sounds like a reasonable change.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	this seems a sensible idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Supportive of this proposal. The Young Person's National Entitlement Scheme can offset some of the change resulting from this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed - council should only provide what is statutorily required. Children can easily walk 2-3 miles (I understand other procedures are in place for disabled children etc)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Crazy, that public money is currently being spent to provide a service that is not statutory. This is shameful and should stop immediately.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree with this. Under 22's can obtain free transport cards so no need for school buses	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree but rural locations need careful consideration. Safety is an issue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	residents in villages should be encouraged to walk to school; - agree re implementing statutory legal minimum limits for providing transport	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Need to ensure we understand how many pupils will be disadvantaged by not living near a commercially viable bus route, and any pupils likely to be put at risk by being the only person on the bus getting off at an isolated bus stop.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree, however this will almost certainly drive an uplift in use of personal vehicles to transport children to school. Are there plans to introduce alternative options such as "walking bus" or suchlike to encourage pupils to walk/cycle?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I support this proposal, as it will provide a pragmatic solution to maximising underused employment land to the West of Livingston. However, this requires to be properly masterplanned, with thorough consultation to ensure sufficient greenspace, health infrastructure, active travel routes and employment opportunities etc. This is a highly accessible part of Livingston and with the energy and cost of living crises can provide a home to families that may not be able to own a car, but can still access employment, community and leisure opportunities easily.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As youngsters now have the free travel on local transport I agree with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If someone is receiving carers allowance and a mobility car and a top up on their benefits because their kid is disabled surely it is their responsibility to take their kids to school just like anyone else.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good, as long as well-lit and well-maintained footpaths are available between pupil's homes and their schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	ok - not statutory. get on with it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I walked to school every day of my school life - too many buses provided for children who should be taking some exercise. I can't comment positively or unbiased on this subject.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Aligning with statutory limits appears to be fair and equitable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	parents should be responsible for kids to get to school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	agree - but would like to see the effect of this on pupils once the data is collected	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Reduce	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If there is a bus route they can use then cancel other buses that pick them up	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The current system although working the actual buses are antiquated, pupils have a Young Scot card therefore can use local bus services, in the statement above you talk about cutting transport how will this help. These services at present are not being utilised by pupils so may be cut before they need them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Use commercial bus routes using the YPNES is a great idea. Stop school buses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If young people under 22 are getting free transport then they should use their bus pass to and from school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I hope this wroks out well and no kids are disadvantaged.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This seems to be a fair way to save costs however it must be remembered that very small children aged 5 would not be able to travel on a public bus alone so perhaps it should be considered that there be a cut off age say 8 years old unless there are extenuating circumstances	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree. Children and parents can walk.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Personally I think the changes made in this area so far have been positive. As long as the safety of the school children is not compromised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Safety of children should be paramount and if public services are reduced children may not be able to get to and from school in a timely manner	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree. Let secondary pupils use their entitlement cards to get the service bus to school. (or walk) This would also generate income for the bus companies who claim they need their under used routes subsidised by the council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What are the statutory limits? It is hard to comment without those being made clear. I do not see a problem with secondary school pupils using their entitlement card to travel to school on public transport but the council needs to ensure there are routes to do this, with a high enough service level to cope.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is not the case in Polbeth. Children are bused to Parkhead Priamry when they could easily walk. Stopping the buses will save thousands of pounds and encourage a healthier lifestyle.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As long as the kids can use commercial bus routes instead then this seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If you are going to remove school buses and get the young people to use their free travel passes. There needs to be a decent bus service, as in buses that actually turn up, for them to use this.; As it is, most young people that I see seem to be driven by their parents/carers to school. It's incredible that we have all this money to give for concessionary travel passes, but not it seems, to actually provide a clean, decent, reliable bus service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I believe if parents chose to live out with the school catchment area it would be the parent's responsibility to transport their children to school. Also, the free bus pass for the children offers them more opportunity to use the buses at different times. If they attend school clubs, visit friends etc do we really need the cost of these and private Taxis ??	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As above, the Council should be looking at who is eligible for taxis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed assuming that the reduction doesn't involve pupils having to walk through rural areas with insufficient footpaths and lighting.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	You need to start this measure before then reducing public transport as you may find services that were under used become more viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Walking and cycling is the way to go. However, recent developments in Livingston, for example, have made this dangerous for many people. The roads are too busy and the drivers too dangerous, and a town that was once designed with underpasses and foot bridges, not requires pedestrians to have a working knowledge of the lanes and traffic light systems of a given roundabout, knowing when to dart across the road between light changes, hoping that the driver indicates (they don't) and that they are in the correct lane (they're often not).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree on these savings but if this is to happen you cannot also drastically reduce public transport services. Need to ensure adequate public service at school times.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	May be problematic if you plan to remove bus routes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Support as long as there are commercial bus services pupils can use their under 22s concession on	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree especially as new schools in Winchburgh should reduce travel distance for local children	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Stop the buses to Parkhead ps. Need to look at making parents more accountable for getting their own kids to school. That is key when you look at house, so why is the council left to pick up the bill.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Stop using taxi services for pupils whose parents have the ability to take and collect their children themselves.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	the use of the young persons free travel card would be a lot less expensive than putting on school transport and a big saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Would make sense to use the free bus passes, rather than the council paying for the running and maintenance of buses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I can understand the concern and the decision to update the distance threshold for using the statutory school transport but not I would be less convinced if the Young person scheme were to be removed entirely. I'm not saying you said that but just pre-empting my concerns.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree with this proposal, however measures will need to be in place at schools to reduce volume of traffic (car free zones, double yellow lines, walking buses co-ordinated by the council etc) as people are lazy and will turn to cars.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The commercial network should be used to support school travel, secondary pupils, as the government is already funding this provision so why should the council be paying bus companies as well for bus transport. Surely there are enough main routes which do past schools to allow this to happen?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Of course we should move to statutory levels for school transport - are we not trying to encourage walking and reducing our carbon footprint?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is a good idea. More walking to school makes good sense for keeping children healthy. However if the child is disabled this needs to be an exception to your rules including children with severe learning needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As youths can make their own way for free, then scrap all school transport which would save more money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	People should be at a school within walking distance of their homes there is enough schools within the catchment areas to accommodate this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Makes sense as buses empty and my children had to walk as missed out by centimetres	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	So long as public transport can accommodate and children are not out at risk walking rural roads alone	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As long as children are kept safe agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems sensible. I would assume ASN transport wouldn't be affected by this tho?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	However, perhaps scrap taxi services for those living in countryside, unless they are active farm businesses. Those in high-value converted steadings etc should not be subsidised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Using commercial bus routes does sound cost effective but how would WLC ensure pupil safety?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I believe that there is an absurd amount of money spent on school taxis. This needs to be seriously reviewed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There is the free bus pass scheme that all school pupils have been able to apply for so they can already take a bus for free. There should be a review of the number of school taxis used to transport pupils to and from school when their parents choose to live in the countryside. It is their parental responsibility to get their child to school. They should pay for their own taxis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is only possible due to the Young Persons bus scheme - otherwise these distances in a Scottish winter would be unacceptable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Would additional provision be in place for secondary school children who have identified needs that could prevent them using public transport? E.g. a child with autistic spectrum disorder who finds crowds of people (especially those they don't know) as a trigger? Otherwise this makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Do what is statutory required	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Commercial bus routes should be used	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Excellent idea. Young people can easily walk the distances outlined. It would have a positive impact of pupil health and on their learning. If they couldn't walk the distance then that would be reflected in the statutory provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	LET THE KIDS WALK WOULD GIVE THEM EXERCISE.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal. School children should be encouraged and, where required, supported to apply to the Young Persons national entitlement scheme. This may assist with the viability of routes in 4B.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree - kids should walk to school more - would help with keeping them physically active, improve learning, reduce obesity. This may encourage more parents driving them to school increasing issues of parking at the school gates.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This seems sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	In favour of this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	A good approach- particularly exploiting the existing government support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Yed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	You would need to ensure a reliable public transport system at least for to/from school hours but I think this is a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Provided that a direct route was in place on public transport. The public transport doesn't always align with start and finish times of schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree - encourage walking and less vehicular travel.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Although this will probably mean more cars on the road at peak times, it's ultimately the parent's responsibility to get their children to school, so I would support this strategy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Go to a local School or use your bus pass	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree with this strategy what happened to pupils walking to school, as the Scottish Government complaint that children need more exercise, what a great a way walking to school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	High time WLC STOPPED paying out fortunes to taxi companies ! 1 child in each taxi, it's ridiculous and it's the people of West Lothian who fork out for it via our CT which WLC put up yet again ! Find alternatives, and research which families truly need the transport scheme, stop picking up children who live just a few 100meters from their school !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There is a lot of waste with transport in private taxis etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Use of the free travel for children would be very beneficial	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I think this service is abused by the public, I live rural and see the school bus collecting kids while parents with two cars at the door sit at home or in the garden, especially now with most working from home.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sounds appropriate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree, if people choose to live away from school they should pay their own transport or use existing services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Great, another honest question. Agree, saving should be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is fine if commercial buses are fit for purpose and who is going to maintain the safety for non school passengers on the bus	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is not a one size fits all so agree this could be implement but with caveats in place for those with a neurodiversity, physical or learning disability to be protected and still have transport provided.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Abolish School transport, Umbrellas could be provided to prevent Weather related illness.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The free concession card is a great idea and then the council wouldn't have to put on school buses	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Secondary pupils could use public buses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As an ex taxi driver (who never done school contracts), i was always angry at the multi £m's freely given out to drivers for school contracts. Its a joke that ANY driver can be paid hundreds of £'s every week for contracts. The normal metered fares (or set fares) were peanuts compared to the extortionate fees openly paid out by WLC.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. The survey contains specific questions regarding school transport.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree with reprioritising Transport for schools. Transport is very important to get people to school	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would be a good way to reallocate resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree you could go further by reviewing the taxis; That take kids to school that needs to stop	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Given that young people can get free buses anyway seems sensible but there would need to be a review of routes especially for younger children as they shouldn't be expected to cross busy roads	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	'Statutory minimum limits';- seems comprehensible and in line with economies elsewhere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	agree. The bus pass scheme for kids for free travel is amazing and all kids should be enrolled.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree parents chose where they live it's up to them to get kids to school. Why should the public pay for this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Fair enough. Don't do both either free school bus or free travel. Cut the school buses send them commercial	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	remove concessionary rail schemes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School buses (especially for secondary pupils) needs to move with the times - there is a new development in free transport for young people paid for by the Scottish Government. The council needs to design a new approach around this development.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good idea - as long as the services are in place to allow Young People to travel, eg to school, etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This linked to my above comments makes total sense, although this is for the general school population I tend to think that additional needs pupils require to be looked at.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again agree as there is some individuals who could use public transport free with young scot card	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This sounds suitable if a public bus service which was reliable was evident.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Encouraging pupils to have the entitlement card and trvuding to the statutory level makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	These free travel cards are a waste of money for young people, bikes and feet need to be pushed as healthier options as well as better for the environment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Does there still need to be as many secondary school buses now there are young person bus passes. ; Could the bus operators and council work together to provide transport for pupils on normal service buses which at the same time may allow less viable services to remain.?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems fairly reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Stop using taxi services for pupils who use inflated costings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	encourage this to all pupils as west lothian have a good bus service in most areas so make them use this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	With free bus travel for all with young scots cards do we still require school transport in secondary area?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This might work, as long as the YP could access a bus easily and they ran to time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	We shouldnt provide travel less than the legal requirements. This is a sensible change. However if no safe walking route for particularly primary children the Council needs to provide transport. The YP entitlement card being available to all children, then particularly secondary students can travel on commerical buses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Encourage walking/cycling to school. Currently there does not appear to be any impact studies on parents dropping their children off at school gate. The pollution caused by this and the increase in traffic can be viewed as a reason for pupils feeling it's unsafe to walk/cycle to school. More secure bicycle parking could also be provided at schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This should be implemented straight away so Scot Gov shoulder the cost otherwise paying twice!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	100% for the young persons national free travel. This has given our kids a greater sense of independence which in turn is giving them responsibility and driving home good travel habits too. It also helps connect communities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Taxi's are provided to children who should be walking or parents should be responsible for them. Not all children who receive free taxis warrant them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I guess children that live in the local villages that can walk to school should. It will help with the environment as well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Fully this measure, providing the service at the statutory distance is already in place in many other councils in Scotland. It would also be good to encourage walking and cycling to school which would support the climate change emergency that the council declared.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree and the use of private taxis this needs reviewed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Assuming there still are commercial bus routes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If children are going to schools within the catchment area why are school buses needed??	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Combining school and public bus services makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	remove free taxi rides to school	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	remove free taxis too - surely its the guardians responsibility to get the child to school	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The Scottish Government should fund free school transport under their free bus travel for under 22 years scheme. Since they don't then if there is a viable public bus route to school then the school should not be expected to provide a separate bus at a cost, pupils should use the free public bus.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The use of taxis for children to get to and from school should be stopped, this would be a great saving in it self.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	stop subsidising buses. That's the Govt's job	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Cut school busses to legal minimum. Reduce transport subsidy for attendance at Gaelic Schools, and music, dance and sport centres.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Pupils pay for bus passes who are not in benefits! Stop sending a taxi with 4 seats to collect 1 child!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	All young Scots have free public travel on bus routes. Either remove that completely or remove the Private Companies providing school buses and have secondary school pupils use the bus passes for school transport. Those pupils currently under the statutory distance already do this so remove the statutory distance and all Secondary pupils use public transport.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agreed, kids can use their free bus passes to get to school and alternatively trains if needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	possibly a more targeted approach is needed?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Consider savings by reducing transport costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree, but also think the Council needs to look at safe cycling routes to schools as well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Seems fair assessment and potential savings to be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Remove contracts for rotten school buses and encourage pupils to use public service bus using nec card where there is a direct route served	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	You should charge people who send their kids to a school further away when there is a school closer	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is interesting. This would do away with a lot of school buses as we know it, getting access to the young person's entitlement card is not easy so needs to be made easier!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Yes I agree that the limits should be applied. The health benefits, global footprint benefits of waking over taking the bus such short distances must be addressed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good idea. It will also help with fitness.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No brainer, reduce school transport provision in line with statutory measures. Kids can use there free bus passes for travel - can they not use this rather than have the council pay for additional buses. This would increase uptake on the public bus routes and make for a better service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There's many kids who get the bus to the local school that live less than a mile away. ; Far too many kids are driven to school which is a huge issue but not for the council to save money on. Closing roads or school gates and making kids walk more can only be a good thing, socially, environmentally, mentally.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As long as the safety of the kids is not put at risk then this should be looked at.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As a boy I had to walk to primary and later secondary schools, both were 30 minutes in each direction, local families organised "Walking Buses" leaving children just the last 5 minutes or so to finish/start journey to school. Rain / Hail / Sleet / Snow made no difference to us, we made friends / chatted and arranged to meet up after school and weekends, a lot better than waving through a car window!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Statutory limits for school transport should apply.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Reduced school transport if fine as long as there is plenty public transport available to allow pupils get to school and home again	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If high school young people now have access to a free bus pass, there should be limited need for school buses?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	That's fine for older pupils as long as buses are running at a time suitable to ensure pupils arrive in school on time	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ridiculous that some children get picked up in taxis etc and dropped off at school (unless council funding). Their parents chose to live there - why do the council pay for their choice? At the very least needs means tested.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If the Lothian buses were reliable this would be ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I don't think children need buses to school if they live 2 miles away	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would be an idea if there was an actual public transport that covered all the schooling areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Better use of this is a good plan but again buses need to be reliable. When I was at school the buses were late and so made the pupils late the deputy heads response was catch an earlier bus. Not the safest option especially in winter standing about and walking in the dark even earlier than you already are.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Agree with proposal but taxis to school to be reassessed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I voiced this in the above question and feel that with the free travel on commercial bus routes the council should no longer provide school transport. However it would need to be looked into to ensure all pupils can get a bus to get them to their school in sufficient time, it may mean being 30 minutes early but the school is usually open so there is a safe place for them to be	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree with this, provided suitable commercial routes were supported for pupils relying on public transport	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I think that school transport should be looked at. I frequently pass schools in Livingston where there are buses waiting to transport pupils. Pupils should live within walking distance of the schools. Obviously, pupils from outlying villages may require transport especially if the council is going to cut subsidies to pupil transport.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Feel free to scrap school transport now the children have an entitlement card but use the savings from that to help keep some of the beleaguered bus routes going.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Assuming that no users of the current services who cannot make their way safely to school without the bus service continue to have that access, or other arrangements are made for them, this would seem sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Commercial bus routes are not reliable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School buses being reduced would result in more parents driving children to school. This in turn is not good for the environment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If school buses are cut again this will increase car usage and pollution in the air..	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	How does pushing young persons to commercial bus routes reconcile with ceasing services above ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is a joke, i pass by schools going to work and, in my opinion, it would be better if transport was laid on rather than having irresponsible parents driving them to and from school, dropping and picking up children causing traffic mayhem and usually results in huge tailbacks in traffic, as parents illegally park, or double park on one-way streets etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The commercial buses are not reliable enough to get children to school on time. It would take my child 50 mins to walk to school. I say no to this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Some routes are not safe for children to walk even though less than 2/3/ miles	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not everyone has a commercial bus route to school and those that do, do not always have a timetable that aligns with school start/end times. Also section/proposal 4B will do away with some of these routes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again, this transport is required, for instance, getting young people to school/education to try and raise the attainment level and reduce the gap!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School transport must not be stopped	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School buses service for children who live far from school is essential for working parents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	So, there's one bus. ONE BUS, that operates through our village (following successive years of cuts). So all of the children from the village (and nearby villages too) who rely on multiple buses going to different schools, are now going to have one bus. ONE BUS. FOR ALL OF THEM? Please tell me how you expect this to work WLC, as I am truly stumped. I think what you're more likely to see is falling attendance rates at schools, along with horrific traffic congestion around school drop off and pick up times. Oh, and more car accidents and collisions with pedestrians/children. Just when I think your plans can't get any worse...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would make sense if you were not planning to remove many of those commercial bus routes as stated in 4B	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If you wish schoolpupils to be late or not turn up daily then go this route as ghost buses on apps don't turn up ...some buses 2 hours late...children young people miss classes and education this is not a good idea at all. Our young population will get frustrated waiting on busses...not the best day to the start of the school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Is this viable, some school catchment areas are far and wide and some childre may need more than one bus. Thisay affect attendance rates and punctuality of pupils. You should also review the number of taxis being used for one pupil, this should only be provided where absolutely necessary.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Your statement is incorrect as it is over 1.5 miles and 2 miles respectively. This service is badly run and unfairly administered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is not safe for Primary school pupils to get on a public bus service. There would be no one on the bus safeguarding the children and ensuring that they get off at the correct stop. Totally unsafe.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The buses that will no longer be running because you are withdrawing funding forcing operators to change routes? Does the council do joined up thinking at all?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Pupil safety must be at the heart of this. Routes to school where walking pupils are exposed to a greater level of danger should not be considered for transport cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	But yous want to cut bus routes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	So the kids and parents are impacted once again!?!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The young persons entitlement card is a great provision by the Scottish government and should be utilised to full effect. I think that transport should still be provided for pupils under thr age of 10.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Pupil safety must be taken into account and each case should be reviewed individually.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Commercial routes would be unable to deal with the volumes of children and commuters at peak times so unclear how this would work in practice	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I'd like to know if ANY WLC candidate walks 3 miles to work. I doubt it. Disgrace.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I don't think this change should apply to primary pupils or to those with additional support needs, due to the struggle these pupils will have with independence.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Perhaps opening Winchburgh academy for pupils from S2 to S6 instead of having them on the school bus to Linlithgow Academy could perhaps save money and the environment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Need to be available of schools will be blocked by cars and also more children walking on dark morning in terrible weather	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I thought it was currently 2 miles for secondary - is the proposal to move to 3 miles which is the legal minimum? If this changes, who provides the bus services to get those children to school who currently get a free bus - are there commercial bus routes with enough capacity? Eg currently many children from Springfield in Linlithgow get the bus to Linlithgow academy, some for free, some paying (as under 2 miles). They will still need to get to school - what will the replacement provision be?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	OK, so the other suggestions have targeted kids food, clothing, childcare, education, fostering and youth programs. And now they'll ALSO all have to walk. Let's make all the lazy 5 year olds walk those miles...guessing this is supposed to be character building for them? Is this an elaborate joke from the council?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again ridiculous and unfair burden on families with children. Families cannot be expected an addition cost of getting their kids to school, and the young persons free travel card scheme is surely not the responsibility of a single council but that of the Scottish Government who I don't believe have restrictions on its use.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	With all these children in normal transport, which you say is also being cut, how will everyone get to work or school on time? ; How many more taxis will be used for children who may manage on a school service but won't manage public service?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School Bus - the contract with Horseburgh only exist due to their cheap fee. This service is abysmal. Not only are the children suffering from fumes but the environment as a whole is. You are supporting this. It's been made quite clear to me over the last 5 years that neither the Council nor Horseburgh care about the welfare of the children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What are the statutory legal limits for school transport, also high school pupils may feel safer getting to school on school bus rather than public transport and school buses take them straight into their school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Would this negatively impact children making their way to school? Potentially? Could this damage school attendance figures? Potentially. Surely that can't be good for children, the education system, the council etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If services are removed in rural areas where there isn't a great bus service running, then a service would need to be put in place for kids to get to school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Keep school transport and for special needs patients	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Commercial buses are too dangerous and unreliable. Wouldn't send my child to school in it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Kids can go for free on the non school buses but these need to be available. Buses need to run past schools in morning and afternoon for them to be utilised. ; Unless there's a bus service, more parents will drive the little darlings to school and practically right up to the front door!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Don't get me started on this. Buses are a nightmare and an absolute rip off. How can that be good use of money who moderates that?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Child care arrangements need to be considered parents who work need to know that their children can safely get their by school bus	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Requiring many of our young people to have to potentially manage a number of buses to get to school with a direct link to their school. This will result in parents driving their children to school and adding to heavily congested roads, add to pollution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Things seem to be strangely set up regarding the school catchment. I chose my kids to go to a nearer school by 2 miles closer to home, however 3 miles closer to home. However by doing this I had to forfeit my school transport even though it is still over the 2 miles. The bus service to the furthest school is also known to be dangerous, limited and not fit for purpose on many occasions. School catchment needs to be assessed and save money on transportation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If the bus routes are cut in alignment with the scheme mentioned above then cutting the school buses could result in pupils not being able to get to school on time. Again this one needs to be carefully thought out and done on a case by case rather than blanket formul.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No don't agree. That's just passing the buck to someone else. NEC has only been provided to young people for a short period of time so what happens once that scheme stops? Then what?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Also, school transport needs to be safe and in line with the school day - sticking our children on commercial routes that might not even get them safely to the school gate is quite worrying.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Who thought that rubbish up	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Keep the free buses	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Asking parents to walk primary school kids two miles to school each morning makes things like getting to work in time very difficult.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would have a significant impact on families that are already struggling. The school I work in has a large catchment area. Expecting pupils to make their own way who live almost three miles away would be disappointing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sounds reasonable for secondary aged pupils but perhaps not for the primary aged pupils	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As long as commercial bus round are in place this is a viable option. In my personal case it is not feasible for the young people who live here to access their catchment high school via public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Oh my dog	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This only works if you look at this in conjunction with 4B above otherwise you potentially cut the routes which pupils would use to get to/from school especially if they are involved in after school activities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Kids need school buses, not public transport. A pensioner will not get on a bus for say the doctors in the morning if going to get 100 teenagers shouting and screaming around them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I prefer that to keep the school buses service for children in the catchment areas as not all of them able to use their free travel on commercial bus routes because can't walk alone to bus stops as scared from dogs and no self confidence in the early ages till 14 years old, of course not for all children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Children should have safe access to school from anywhere in West Lothian not just there catchment school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Another cut for schools? We are a rural council not a city council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Clever, reducing the Burdon on council budgets and transferring it onto central Government budget. I admire your ingenuity, but this could impact the most vulnerable children hardest. If there is no alternative public service for those living further than 2 miles it may incentivise them to just not be in school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Where is the Health and Safety with this anyone could sit next to your child on that bus, they could say anything to your child on that bus. Do you think all children will cope with that. I don't think they will. This is a bit different from going out with 2 or 3 friends to the centre on a bus. What do you do when the adult gets annoyed at the noise or just by the pure fact the bus he has to get to is daily filled with kids. I don't think this is a good idea for either of them.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	How will this work when all the school kids pile onto the same bus, which they will do to get to school on time and then the workers at the next stop who are paying can't get a seat because it's full.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	3 miles is an hour long walk on average. That's 2 hours a day. It's only going to affect those who don't have alternative travel options therefore impacting most on the poorest in society again	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	for those old enough to travel alone this is fine but for children who through no fault of their own may be living in a different area for a small while for example if temp accommodation through homelessness or fleeing for an abusive relationship and are not old enough to travel alone they would still require help to get to school which is the one thing that is still stable in their lives	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	How does ensuring the staff on public buses are safe to transport pupils to and from school. Currently, PGE is required for the taxi and bus drivers. Does that not matter anymore because money's tight?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Will increase the amount of vehicle around school. Also look at cost to council of taxi contracts. A recent journey for a pupil was three times more when using Pecos than if we just paid cash for the journey.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would only work if the commercial bus routes were still available. If the 4B and 4C are not managed together it would cause issues on routes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There needs to be an overhaul of this. ; Many children have to travel to school for various reasons. The council should have better control of numbers in schools and closely monitor where the children are living and how much travel is involved. It should be as short a journey to school as possible hence making things more cost effective.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	How would students get to school?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would only work if there was a reasonable bus route in place. Please also consider the younger children. Getting on public transport themselves may not be safe or comfortable for the S1-S3's.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not all children can go off on a bus safely so having actual school transport helps getting more kids to school safely .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	no	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not happy with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It is unbelievable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	dissagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Disagree with this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would add further costs to already overstretched family budgets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Rather dangerous in my eyes as you don't know who is on the bus !!!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	You cannot honestly expect school kids to walk up to 6 miles a day, in our weather?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Great I'll look forward to not getting a seat and being verbally abused and threatened on my way to and from work. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	So let me get this straight you want to remove school buses and put them on local busses which you are pulling off the network as you can't subsidise them. Here's a thought maybe ask them to walk? Better for them and the planet that they are intent on throwing as many energy drinks on the floor as possible of.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I hope you dont expect my autistic daughter to get 2 buses to school that is outside blackburn for her school starting at 8.3am. The council demolished blackburn academy so my daughters chatchment school is bathgate, blackburn doesnt have a direct bus to it so there is no way my she would get on 2 buses. 😞	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is complete nonsense who can you expect the current infrastructure of the bus network to cope with the school run as well. Blackburn to Bathgate academy for instance is 2 double decker buses this is not visible or safe for the children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is fine for secondary age children and would work hut unfortunately the pupil transport service in West Lothian can nit be depended on	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	My children relie on the school buses there is no other way to get them to school on time the public buses are only every hour and don't always turn up and only other option would be for them to walk which isn't safe.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I do not want the school bus transport to be removed. Relying on public buses is not viable I have relied on public transport and have been late for work on numerous occasions due to the un reliable bus services in Blackburn. I also worry about the safety of the children being expected to use public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Children should not be expected to way three miles in Scotland variable climate. The use of young persons national entitlement scheme will merely transfer the costs, remember Scotland ultimately has a single budget.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If children have free passes for transport then transport to school should also be free. I do not agree with charging young people to use a school bus.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not a responsible solution, many children still may not have a young persons entitlement card. Public buses are not reliable or on time. At what time do you expect children to get on these buses safely in the mornings and what about the public being overrun with children going to & from school. The children's safety is a must this will not be a safe journey for them during the darker mornings when public buses are too busy or late!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	My younger sister is autistic and takes the free school bus to academy. She does not have the capabilities to get on a public bus without suffering severe issues, and this would in turn destroy her educational standards. The free school buses have been running since long before I was a child (early 2000's) and allow children a stress-free and relaxed journey to their education. Removing them could prove incredibly detrimental to their education and mental health. Perhaps if the council could learn to budget properly and not waste money on overpriced vanity projects, they wouldn't be in the situation where they are having to remove services that a council should be providing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	See previous comments on school busses. Commercial busses are not reliable and those with additional support needs use this service as an essential part of their school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	At a time of climate crisis, this will only add to additional cars dropping-off children at school, increasing pollution and, importantly, increasing the likelihood of accidents in areas around schools. More should be done to encourage bus use, not less and it will be an incredibly dark day for West Lothian if this proposal was to go through. I really urge you not to proceed with this cut!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is a disgusting proposal and one that will cause significant harm not only to those directly affected but the entire community. At a time when we should be encouraging group transport we should be making it easier, not harder, to access. In addition, there are a number of areas that are not served by public transport operators where the child could make use of their national entitlement card and therefore a school bus provision is the only service that can be used. I am proud to live in West Lothian where we don't stick with legal minimums but actually offer services for the benefit of the population.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Safe travel to school is imperative for the young people and if the parent's are unable to provide transport then I feel that it should fall to the Council to cover the costs - GIRFEC/ UNICEF Rights of the Child.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I think that you need to take into consideration the income for the families involved and the availability of appropriate footpaths and street lighting on the route to school.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If the council withdraws school transport then it will have to accept responsibility for the consequences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is a discriminatory measure against pupils in neighbourhoods that are situated further away from the catchment school, leaving pupils at risk of unreliable commercial providers and the community at further risk of climate emissions increase from additional use of private transport. Its doubtful if the running cost savings realisable would justify such a measure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This could cause problems if commercial bus didnt turn up for dome reason snd pupils didnt get to school at correct time. Also commercial timetable eould need to fit in eith school times	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Should still have the free buses. Not all children would be able to get on a public bus	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Shouldn't matter where you live, should get free transport if needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Some children are not mature enough or developmentally able to use commercial bus routes. Identified school transport should remain to safeguard the pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I disagree with this proposal. Staff and service cuts are not a viable option	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Simply, parents don't feel comfortable letting kids make their own way due to the nature of cars. This issue makes itself worst.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This change would exacerbate the problems associated with the school run, where children who live inside the new minimum would more than likely need to be dropped of in school car parks. Many of these car parks are far too small to cope with the drop-off at the moment. It's illogical to have fewer pupils on the same bus, and an increase in traffic caused by "the school run", where air pollution would obviously increase. This change would be detrimental to the Scottish Government goal of net zero. Please reconsider.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	One of your other proposals is to remove school transport and have children use their NECs. My children use school transport, we are under the legal distance but like on a country road without a safe path or lighting. What will happen to children like mine. The rural subsidised service that runs by our house is already only once an hour. Are they to stand on a national speed limit country road in the dark to get a bus that won't get them to school on time? This is utterly ridiculous and actually quite disgusting	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	My children use this service. We are under the legal distance but it is not a safe walking route due to no lighting ans narrow paths next to a national speed limit road. These specifics must be considered properly, especially given that it will impact the same communities as the cutting of rural subsidised bus services. Primary aged children cannot be expected to stand in the daek (in winter) on thin paths next to national speed limit roads waiting to use their bus pass on public services that have been cut by the council. This is dangerous and not at all an acceptable solution for rural communities. This will cause children to be at risk of death	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Public transport in West Lothian is poor and badly organised.School buses are vital for safe transport of children. The elderly and disabled should not be penalised because they need more help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is not suitable for every child and every situation	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	How can this be when Council have just stated in previous question that some routes are not commercially viable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Children should not have to make their own way to school It is unreasonable to expect children with no parents to transport them, to walk to school before the school day. Arriving tired, sweaty, and risking personal safety is not on.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again, this is detrimental to children and family wellbeing. If you change, the distance of child has to live from the school before offering transportation, you're endangering and preventing children from attending school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not all villages will be covered by a commercial bus service for pupils to use their free bus pass on to get to and from their school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Fudge! That's such obscure wording, I've read it twice and I'm still no more informed what you're changing or withdrawing here. Sounds like you want kids back in their parents cars being ferried around everywhere to me. Not very good for the environment methinks.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	school buses have always been an issue in safe travel. given the large numbers, this may impact on commuters.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There is no public transport available in many rural communities so school transport has to be provided.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There is no bus for children via Wester inch to Bathgate academy. Making the youngest of our secondary children walk on particularly busy road in dark winter months. ; Parents would pay for a co-ordinates bus service to the school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Although we don't use this entitled service I would be reluctant to remove it as many people that access it live on unsafe road routes which prevent children from safely walking to school. Eg for us it is the unpaved Clifton road. Not all families can afford a safe cargo bike to get kids to school like we do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Kids won't use this scheme if the buses are taken off as per 4B above!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The use of the Young Persons national entitlement scheme for free travel on commercial bus routes is absolutely essential for all young persons. It provides them with the freedom and independence they need at a critical stage of a young person's growth and development. Without this invaluable service there would be a detriment to the mental health and wellbeing of many young persons across West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Large parts of WLC is inaccessible by footpath. If it was then walking to school wouldn't be an issue for many children. However, often cars are used to minimise travel times or avoid having to walk a longer way over a short distance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Improvement needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Children are required to attend school and transport should be provided if they are attending their catchment school but it is too far to walk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The bus passes have helped many families and young people. I feel this should remain in place	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School transport is already a continued issue/problem in our area. A reliable, safe and appropriate bus service is essential for all pupils' to enable attendance at school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Essential service to get our children to school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If transport is provided outwith 2 miles, surely it should pick up pupils on the way?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	All children should have access to free bus travel to and from school, especially when it's raining, cold, icy ect	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I am sure this will cause more cars as parents transport their 'precious children' to school rather than them walking.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School buses should not be removed as this will impact attendance and attainment levels. Education first!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This has to be looked at as 2 miles for a secondary pupil to walk is approximately 45 minutes which is unacceptable! 90 mins per day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	"Town" buses are currently frequently missing/late. If pupils have to rely on these to get to school there may be a negative impact on attendance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This doesn't tell you what the statutory distance is. Very unhelpful! I wouldn't want my 11 year old travelling to high school on a public bus. That is not safe.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I don't agree. Commercial bus use doesn't work for school day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would be a huge problem for many families where we live. Even for parents who currently pay for the school bus where we live there are not enough tickets available each week to meet demand and parents have been asking for a second bus for a while. Many rely on free passes. Either removing the bus or taking away passes for families who live too far to walk will cause hardship	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again what about the people who rely on this and can't afford any other option???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	And in doing so reduce the attendance of pupils at secondary school or increase car journeys for school runs especially at primary schools. Adversely effecting parents disturbing work patterns, increasing fuel costs and air pollution around schools. ; Why not have a free bus pass for mainstream bus routes for secondary school students and keep the current primary school bus distance in place	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Once again increasing barriers for those who are less well off. This will lead to reduced attendance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Bey you wouldnt walk 6 miles a day for your work, why should we expect kids to!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This will only work if: Commercial buses would need to run on appropriate routes at appropriate times. Passing on the responsibility to commercial transport risks health, education and safety being compromised across the authority, in particular with the disadvantaged..	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This will only work if: There are safe routes to school with reduced speeds for traffic on those routes at key times and other traffic calming measures in those zones.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Disagree this will disadvantage rural communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I disagree....rural communities will suffer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No you don't!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Disagr33	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not all children feel safe or have the capacity to navigate public transport, this is disappointing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The use of free travel is only good for people that live in towns/villages where there is a decent bus service. My children live in stoneyburn and there is not a direct bus to Blackburn where their school is. This would mean a 45 min journey to Bathgate and a change of bus to get to Blackburn. or similar journey changing at Whitburn. This is not a suitable means for children to get to school, and certainly not in winter months where it is darker nights.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	So is this saying that all school transport will be stopped if there is a commercial bus route? Not sure that makes sense, and for 'green' reasons it would seem best to have a full bus of school children rather than lots of cars taking kids to school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ridiculous suggestion. These are essential for getting kids to school safely. ; We rely on school transport. ; In our area - the local bus doesn't start until 9:20am meaning my child would miss registration and a full period of school every day. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not everyone is on a main bus route and can make a reasonable journey time to school using normal public transport. Especially when you are cutting some back (see 4B). The increased travel time will have a direct impact on their learning as more time will need to be spent travelling leaving less for study.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	And therefore encourage more anti social behaviour on these means of transport utter disgrace	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What are the legal limits. How would my child get from wester inch to Armadale academy? My son would likely leave school at the early opportunity if the school bus is removed resulting in a less education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Use of commercial bus for young people may sound a reasonable saving, but does come with concerns on safety and reliability.; This may be a viable choice for 15+ pupils, but not so much for younger pupils.; For example, there is no control of who else is in the bus and pupils may be exposed to alcohol and drug use and potential harassment in the bus.; There is also no supervision on whether pupils leave the bus at the right stop, potentially resulting in pupils getting lost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	How can you do this when bus services are likely to be reduced? How can you ensure that everyone has access? Possibility of kids being put in danger here	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Unless additional support needs so additional provision applicable for that.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	my step son is autistic and this change moving from paid school transport to public would be upsetting. There is no bus stop near my home that would take him on a direct route to the school unlike the school bus which picks up very close by	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not enough commercial buses to have these as an alternative	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	; Quite far too walk for those with low fitness ; ; Could affect pupils learning due to length of walk – being tired, late or lack of attendance ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	People who have issues with mobility still have the option of taxis to and from school ; ; There are some areas that use school transport that could walk to school (Springfield), but some areas cannot walk due to lack of walking paths ; ; Pupils will have to wake up earlier therefore getting less sleep causing a fall in engagement and mental health may take a toll ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	; It will be a very dark day across West Lothian (from the extra pollution at least) if these proposals go through.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	; It is absolutely outrageous that this is even being discussed never mind seriously considered. We should be promoting free school transport to help reduce climate pollution and dangerous situations in streets around schools at drop off and pick up.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I cannot believe you are seriously considering removing bus transport entitlements from young people across West Lothian. We should be incredibly proud of exceeding the legal minimum limits, particularly at primary school, and we absolutely must not cut this. West Lothian does not have a high quality public transport infrastructure that would replace current school transport provision at primary school (and do we really want to be putting lone primary 1 children onto a commercial bus to fend for themselves??);	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would need to be considered alongside any reduction in buses and also whether the current timetable allows for timely arrival at school (and not 40 mins early or bang on time leaving no time for traffic, walking from stop to school etc). Also this should only be where safe walking alternatives are available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I don't use public transport so don't feel I have a view on this apart from school transport I think this needs to be kept to ensure some children coming from poverty can make it to school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I think school transport needs to be kept, I don't think the general public would be very happy with a bus full of school children/pupils in the morning/afternoon.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There is no commercial bus route from our village to the secondary school. And there is no safe cycling routes either.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	In addition, we have an environmental crisis and WLC promoting car use to schools is outrageous.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I beg you, do not reduce the eligibility of school transport to legal minimums.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If West Lothian had decent public transport links then the young person national entitlement could possibly be used on school routes...but as there are only a handful of public bus links in the entire district this is a complete non-starter.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	We should be proud to go BEYOND the legal minimum distances for transport and I would worry about children who are currently eligible losing that status...in addition it will only add to traffic, pollution and road safety issues around schools, which are already appalling, but you are actively choosing to make it worse.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Yet again we are impacting on the most vulnerable in society.;; All children should be encouraged to take school transport and access should be widened, not reduced.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Attendance at school is vital to ensure our children attain the best results that they can. Some children cannot afford to pay for transport due to home circumstances and this needs to be taken into consideration.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	To ask pupils (primary or secondary) to walk these distances daily to and from school if transport is not provided could impact attendance. My daughter starts high school next year and we live less than 3 miles from the school by road, however the path to school is much longer and also, in my opinion when you hear local news about muggings and beatings, not safe for a child to walk, especially in the darker months.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	At first hand this sounds very reasonable but it will impact much more so on those who have least money ie will increase inequalities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This will impact on some and seems likely to have some negative effect on the education for some who live in certain difficult to access areas. I'd recommend that the application of the change is not done on a purely distance based approach.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Removing school buses causes me great concern as a parent, particularly given that I stay in Blackburn, where the number of commercial buses has been greatly reduced. With only one bus per hour, which is not big enough to accommodate all young people, how are my children supposed to get home safely? Children's safety seems to be compromised to save money, which is unacceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I'm not a fan of cutting school buses this.;; This massively increases the risk of children being killed by speeding cars.;; My nephews go to parkhead primary and they live in Polbeth your asking young children to make their own way home crossing 1 of the most busiest roads in West Lothian with countless accidents each month that's a disaster waiting to happen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I would be concerned about this in terms of suitability of walking routes where school transport would be ceased.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	disagree with any reduced distance	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No cuts to school bus services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	You have to make sure that pupils can actually get to school on standard public transport without multiple changes and not too early set off times. It is not as easy as saying they can use their YP card. You need a more in depth survey with actual users	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The children of Wester Inch who attend Bathgate Academy need a safe transport system to and from school. This is especially required in winter time but also give the climate of our country this should be a full time resource available to them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sounds reasonable in general but what if there isn't a suitable alternative bus available (especially with routes being cut) or if it isn't safe for children to travel by these?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As a parent, I feel putting children on commercial travel is putting them at greater risk. Not only would they be placed on buses with persons who have not had disclosure Scotland checks but you are also relying on commercial bus route who may not have capacity to take all children and may not run regularly or pick up / stop neat their home or school, again placing them at greater risk. Possibly having to leave earlier in the morning and arriving home later at night, which in the winter will be dark. Their is also opportunity for any predators on buses to follow them home from buses, knowing exactly where they get off, times and routes walking home.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Taking away bus options for children who live closer to their schools will increase traffic around schools during drop off and pick up hours, increasing emissions around schools and making it less safe for children who wish to walk or cycle to school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	You need to ensure that McGills & Lothian Buses can offer routes/timetables to ensure that all children can access their place of education. ; ; A published timetable doesn't mean that the buses are turning up, are fit for purpose etc	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I don't see how that will work in thus scattered and rural community. Especially without reliable and regular bus services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Utterly shameful to remove the ability of children to access school transport. What now happens with those children currently receiving school transport but will then need to pay...in the cost of living crisis this is a cost that many will not be able to afford.; ; We should be encouraging more use of school transport.; ; Public buses in West Lothian are, frankly, dire, and the chances of a bus service being suitable to replace a dedicated (and safe) school transport service is ZERO!; ; I beg you, do NOT do this! Find another way to save funds (I can think of a few ad have already submitted these suggestions elsewhere).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I appreciate that young people have bus passes but not all schools are linked by bus routes - and parents are not happy about sending kids on public buses	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is wrong. ; A journey of 3 miles is too much for pupils to be expected to walk.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	My grandkids stay in rural unlit area with NO footpaths ...couldn't do without school transport...there are no means of public transport they could access	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It is currently very difficult to get a ticket for the Williamston school bus as it is always sold out. Another bus would be useful and parents are happy to pay a reasonable fee.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would be good however there is not always a bus service in place from our location to our school and some require more than one bus. Additionally there would not be enough space on the bus for all the children. Would children then be left stranded?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Some students live in areas where commercial buses do not travel within a reasonable distance. It could also mean more students arriving late/leaving early and missing teaching time because of the timetables set up by bus companies.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Another absolutely ridiculous idea. I wonder whether this impacts on those proposing the change. A child starting school cannot be expected to walk 2 miles to and from school each day, likewise those of secondary school age should not be expected to spend two hours a day getting to/from school. In this era of raising attainment and levelling-up the very opposite is proposed here. Children in more rural communities are frequently those who can benefit from extra time spent studying/engaging with worthwhile activities -- this shortens their time available to spend on activities that they benefit from both emotionally and educationally.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Children paying for the cuts again. Many of the young people who access transport have additional needs and could not use public transport on their own.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Distance shouldn't be a factor. Every child should have the right to get to school safely via transport provided by the council. The mileage calculated doesn't consider path terrain, weather and child safety.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	no way my child would be walking 2 miles to the school - i wouldnt be comfortable with him having to walk that distance ; armadale academy kids dont get picked up from westfield - transport should be provided and the kids miss school as there is no way to get there	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	We must strive to get pupils to schools, this should not be reduced. Widen the tender?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No ask walking in winter and darkness could be dangerous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Use of commercial routes can be very daunting for some learners, especially the younger ones or more vulnerable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	No. You have a responsibility to provide transport so that every child can receive an education. Local buses are not always reliable and I would have huge concerns surrounding child protection.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I would not want the provision of transport to specialist provision stopped as many of these children wouldn't be able to access. ; Some catchment secondaries do not have adequate and safe walking provision this should be looked at alongside any change to transport thinking of the most vulnerable in our society. For example children in Bathgate going to Armadale as catchment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School bus routes need to continue for primary children and children with additional needs to get to school. Older children should be taking advantage of the government free bus passes scheme.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	ASN children are currently taxed to school - will this be affected? How will parents get their children to school considering the majority of children in specialist provisions do not live in their school's catchment area?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School transport services are safer and more reliable than public services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I agree with this as free transport for all children at secondary school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The focus should be children's safety and the environment. Not just cost cutting. The last thing needed is more cars taking young people to school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Means test.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Don't like the idea of children using commercial travel. Possibly additional risks for children's safety	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I personally can't see this working out. ; A mass of secondary school students in the morning and the end of the school day on a commercial bus routes is an accident waiting to happen.; The bus routes don't go directly to and from the schools.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Not sure i understand the wording of this one, but Large numbers of school Children would need some kind of supervision besides a bus driver on public transport it would leave vulnerable children open to bullying otherwise. Children should attend the school closest distance to their homes. Hundreds of children attend schools outwith their catchments some within walking distance.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Children should be going to school within their catchment. If not possible (out-with their control) they should be given the same opportunities (transport wise)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It is opposite from the above question. If regular bus service is reduced, pupils can't go to school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sadly I feel this was inevitable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	All children are entitled to an education. Apply a bit of common sense to this one and think about the safety of the children.; The travel to High School for two pupils from the same outlying village may differ so that one pupil has to travel equal too or just over the 3 miles whilst the other pupil is just below the 3 miles. Consider the route the pupil just under the 3 miles would need to travel by foot and realize that both pupils should receive the same free transport from the village to their place of education. In the previous paragraph you are talking about reducing public transport. Why should pupils from one end of the village be entitled to free transport and those in adjacent streets be forced to pay for their journey. Really be very careful about this one	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Does this mean that children would use their entitlement card on public transport to get to school? This would not necessarily be suitable for those who do not live near a bus route and could result in children missing school more frequently.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	You can't rely on commercial; Buses as they don't turn up half the time am happy to pay for my child's school bus	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Need to have more school bus and reduce private hire taxi . Only disable people should get private hire taxi . This will reduce cost a lot	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Maybe older secondary students would manage this ok but for the the younger secondary students and primary students should definitely be a separate service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As long as pupil lives on a safe route that gets them to and from school on time. We do not want increase in parents in +++ car's driving to the school with negative environmental impact	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	And reduction of a school bus services needs to be replaced with a viable alternative. As there is none, I do not support this measure in any way	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There is no commercial bus nor any Footpath nor safe walking route to westfield primary. If you take away the school bus, our children will be unable to get to school.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Well. We have no public bus routes, no cycle lanes and live on a national speed limit road. There is no way my child will walk along these unsafe roads to get to their school. A request to install cycle paths and reduce the speed limit were declines by the council as too expensive. What should the kids do? Flap their arms and fly?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Assess on a school by school basis. A country mile ≠ to a town mile for suitable routes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	my boys love the fact that they can use their young scot card to travel. We live more than 5 miles from school and so the school bus is a necessity and there are plenty of children using it to make it worthwhile. however, there are children living a very short walk from us who get a separate bus/taxi when they could very easily walk to the main school bus pick up. This is mainly down to fears about road safety so I think any change that results in children walking rather than getting a bus should include road speed reductions etc.; Increasing the number of children using commercial bus routes to get to school will also require an increase in some services and/or a change to their timetable so that children do not find themselves coming out of school having just missed a timetabled bus and so having to wait just short of an hour until the next one	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	For primary aged children? No. Inappropriate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I have concerns about what this means for families who currently rely on the school bus.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would be unbelievable to cause more obstacles in the way of young people getting to and from school.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Another proposal that would encourage more cars on to the road-not good for the environment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It would be utterly shameful for West Lothian Council to increase the distance required for primary pupils to be eligible for school transport. Please do not do this, I beg you! School transport is a lifeline for many and we should be proud of prioritising our pupils beyond what the law states we must do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Road safety and young people should be the priority and not saving money many families would struggle paying additional transport costs to access education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This will only work if local bus services are fit for purpose (they currently are not).; There is also the danger of pupils having to make risky walking trips to school or missing school due to lack of transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This relies on the info structure for public transport being place. Means test or ask parents to contribute especially if less than the statutory distance. I would have concerns about children attending school if relying on public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I think it is shameful that the council are proposing that our children should travel to school using commercial bus routes rather than school transport. There must be so many safeguarding issues that would arise from this. There are so many families where there is no other option than to send their child to school on the bus. If they then are faced with having to send young children, alone, on public transport, this would be a cause of great concern! School transport should be free for all children. The Young Persons national scheme may be scrapped in a few years, what then!? Do our children then just have to accept paying on public transport or walking for 3 miles before their school day starts!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would likely have a negative impact on attendance in school if young people find it hard or are unable to be driven to school or live off a commercial bus route.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	That might be OK in some parts but not in others.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is a shame, as it could lead to more disadvantaged children having a tougher start to their day.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Since you are cutting the commercial routes how will they use them!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Disagree - this sounds like we are reducing access to education, albeit unintentionally. 4C doesn't seem to square with the reductions in 4B above.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There will need to be some realigning of services to ensure there is services around school times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Safety of children must be paramount here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What happens to the children that cannot utilise the 'Young Persons National Entitlement Scheme' because there are no buses in their village, because they fall within a commercially non-viable route? Serious question, because the bus service in our village is poor to say the very least!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If I understand the national guidance correctly, this would mean children aged 9-11 who live between 2 and 3 miles from their school having to walk or be transported by car, presumably by parents? That's too long a walk for that age, and too dangerous if it is not all lit and on pavements, and increasing car traffic is generally highly undesirable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Offset by increased car travel to school?!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I'm sure parents would appreciate this service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	school buses provided.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This would be fine for secondary pupils but the use of commercial bus routes for young primary pupils would create many safety issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sounds sensible but masks specific issues in rural areas. Poor access to public transport in our rural areas is a constant issue raised. Anything that makes things even worse for these communities will be detrimental on both individuals in these areas and the local economy as a whole. Need more detail.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Yes but vulnerable young people must be considered	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Paid for school transport service encourages independence for older students and provides convenient support for working parents. As it stands I do not know if we have bus provision that would be a suitable alternative which would mean we would then have to drive our child to school, with the environmental impact as well as the impact on our working lives. I would be strongly in favour of keeping school transport, with the option to review fares	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Pupils should be encouraged to walk to school if less than 2/3 miles. Wish there was some way to reduce congestion due to unnecessary 'school runs' in cars.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Public transport is a joke and you making children rely on it is pathetic and if you think for a second that parents should take their child primary age to school you are again hindering working parents or parents on low income cause they don't have a entitlement card !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ridiculous expecting kids to get public transport. West lothian Council will be held liable for anything that happens to the child on this public transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again as I put before a child's safety should be priority so school buses should stay in place so they can be with people from school they may not feel safe or confident at only age 12,13,14 to travel on public buses.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This is disgusting to read, poor kids cant go to schools in their own towns cos the council knocked them down so kids have to go outwith. The buses are getting less & you have said you will cut transport. How do you expect kids to get 2 buses to school (my case) be there for 8.30 am. You have already told me my childs walking route isnt safe but you now expect them to make their own way there. As there is fewer buses how do you expect public transport to have skool kids & folk trying to get to work on the same bus? There wont be enough room on the buses. I totally disagree with you cutting the school buses !!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Lifeline for some parents getting the kids to school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Irrespective of the distance from school, pupil should be provided with free transport.; ; Please remove this limit of 2 miles from Primary School.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This could cause more congestion on the roads and neighbours streets to schools as parents use their cars for drop offs. This is not only an environmental cause for concern but also safety for residents and children as almost all are inconsiderately/ dangerously parked for sometimes 30 mins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If you propose to reduce some school buses and get secondary school pupils to use commercial bus routes please bear in mind additional needs/ASD kids may find it harder initially to adapt without full information on nearest bus stops to school, timetables etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Would this affect pupil safety? Especially primary school kids? It is a mistake to remove this for under 14s. ; Over 14s could use commercial bus routes but it looks like in your 4B Reprioritised Transport Strategy, you could be removing or reducing the very service you expect to rely on here. ; Are you 100% certain that the Scottish government won't eliminate the "free" travel scheme for young people in their efforts to cut costs centrally?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Keep as is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Makes sense.but buses would have to run past schools to enable pupils to get in on time. Right now this just ain't happening .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Disgusting that pupil who live just under two miles away can't use the school bus. Most parents/carers would be more than happy to pay for the school bus for their child/children as it's a safer option in this day in age, or use their free bus pass.; Can't reduced public bus service and then expect young people to use that service to get to school	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	All well and good if the schools are sorting the passes, trying to sort 1 for my son last Yr was actually impossible! As soon as he turned 16 he sorted it in 1 council visit...what's That all about? ; Will WLC take responsibility when not all children who need to travel to school have received theirs and therefore cannot make it to school?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It is not guaranteed that there is a public bus route for all pupils to the school they attend. Or that it is at a reasonable time or doesn't require multiple changes. There shouldn't be an arbitrary cutoff mileage as it could be on roads that are not safe to walk alone on. ; Safety and ease of travel should be considered otherwise it will just mean parents go back to using cars. So more emissions and more vehicles on the road.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Sorry the busses would be a night mare for the public. It is safer for the children and the public to have them on their own transport ; Perhaps using taxis to transport children needs looking at	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Existing system of Milage must not be disturbed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I don't agree with this distance because in very bad weather is 2-3 miles too long distance to walk!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ensure that no pupils needlessly travel more than three miles some of travel because the school they attend is more convenient to their parents place of work, this forcing local children to travel further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There is no public bus service between Linlithgow and Blackburn. The closest alternative is a bus to Bathgate and another bus from there, which is plainly unacceptable. A school bus must be maintained on this route to meet the obligations of denominational education.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	We are in rural West Lothian. If there is no school bus, my primary aged children would be unable to get to school. There is no commercial bus and no footpath walking path.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	P1s to p5s 1.9miles away on a public bus on their own not safe makes harder for parents to work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This must not be allowed to happen. Many children rely on school transport who are currently eligible. By withdrawing this service from them you are not only denying them opportunities but also significantly adding to the "cost of the school day" to those parents. Do NOT proceed with this cut, particularly to primary pupils.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	So in the case of families who live in rural areas where there are no public footpaths to the local school are you going to reappropriate that 1.4 million in savings to establish footpaths to the local schools when you withdraw the transport links ? Or as usual do you expect the parents to further stretch their already stretched budgets to include school runs ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This has a disproportionate impact on those that attend catholic schools as they have a wider catchment area. Would not agree with this proposal. How would those on low incomes be able to afford travel to school when they are struggling to heat their homes or eat food on the table. This would disproportionately impact those on the lowest incomes not in favour of this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	We still need school buses please	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Make sure school transport keeps going and always there.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It is very dangerous for the primary kids to have to go on a public bus	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	can't have young kids on the bus on escorted	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	children need school bus transport. Under 22 bus pass allows our children to travel all over Scotland	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It is not safe to allow young people to travel everyday to and from school by regular buses	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Would any review of 4B take into consideration the increase in potential passengers from outlying villages/locations that may have or be part of routes, currently not commercially viable.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What about localities that have a poor bus service	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	so kids walk to school?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	no comments, other than to ensure sustainable transport hierarchy is at the core, where walking, wheeling is first, then cycling, followed by public transport then finally private car. There are so many organisations/funding pots which are designed to achieve this and I don't see it particularly happening in West Lothian even though I don't have children/see what happens in schools	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Can we be advised what the statutory legal minimal limits are.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Very difficult to comment without more detail.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I have used this and its good transport	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Young Persons national entitlement is good.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Don't use this device as son has to walk to and from school	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	See 4B, WLC will need to choose. Will the provision of segregated cycle lanes be provided to aid safety if these buses are removed?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Interesting to see how that would work because a large amount of school children use school transport.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	ensure adequate review as there are limited commercial bus routes	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	For journeys less than 2 miles, better walking and cycling infrastructure is required, which would reduce carbon emissions and increase physical activity. This requires more investment in active travel, better education, skills training and more commitment to carbon emissions targets. Strategic active travel routes should be planned alongside strategic public transport routes. These can also be aligned with green networks.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Provide better quality buses for those travelling on school buses. Ensure that the routes parents applied for are stuck too (current child, bus takes a different route everyday, that's if it even picks them. Up); Reprimand operators who fail to ensure consistency.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Impact of this to be examined to ensure safe walking alternatives are available to affected pupils. Pupil safety must override any cost saving measure.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If there are suitable services- however an adult would need to accompany them on a public bus - will this be subsidised?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It is essential that children living in rural communities, whilst they make be less than 2 miles away, are considered within this decision.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It's important that this is linked with 4B above to ensure there is a viable public transport option for any young person who would be impacted by the withdrawal of school transport.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Why are pupils from mid Calder sent to west Calder high school? This is illogical... increased costs, travel, pollution etc... they are also in a high school which is nowhere near their homes. Redesign the catchment areas and gain a long term saving.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As long as you measure the 2 & 3 miles using safe crossings and not as the crow flies	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Maybe a focus on using bikes (with appropriate / safe bike routes) could be an option in some cases where there wouldn't be a need for too much investment, or could be future investment?	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	We need good transport options that all children either get free or pay for (full or subsidised).	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Send people to their closest school as default, not as a want from a parent. ; I was going to be bussed from bogall to St Kents for school, when I could walk to the academy in 3 mins.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Support safe cycling routes to schools	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a Cycling Walking and Safer Streets partnership with Sustrans and accessibility funding when made available.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Need to review pedestrian routes to ensure all are well lit and safe, are under informal scrutiny by passing vehicles, ; and that improved cycle path provision is made where appropriate.; A parallel "use bike" campaign might be appropriate.	4. The council is already doing this.	Street lighting: appropriate lighting is required by law to enhance public safety. The council has an LED replacement programme as this is the most sustainable and energy efficient option that is currently available. Cycleway improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	More children wouldn't require buses if it was safe to travel to school on foot or bike.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If someone chooses to send their child to a school which is not their closest or out with catchment then we would not provide free travel. The division between RC schools and non-denominational is not right, people should not get priority with a placing request based on their religion. If we took away this division and made every school non-denominational then we may not need to spend as much on travel.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I think encouraging all eligible pupils to apply for their National Entitlement Card is a must.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I support free bus travel for young people.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School transport relies on various sources to provide this service. Could this not be streamlined?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If this results in more pupils walking to school, the council should ensure there are safe walking routes for pupils.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Look at all the schools any overlap.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Also build a school within Calderwood would cut a lot of school transport	4. The council is already doing this.	The Council is already considering and addressing requirement for school places within areas of new housing, including extending the new Calderwood Primary School.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	We stay over 2 miles from our children's primary school and would be very happy to cycle there each morning and back but there are no safe paths for our children to do this - they need the school bus. Or if the council will build a safe path for my children to get to school, we'd be happy to forego the bus and cycle instead. The council can't cut one thing without supplying a safe alternative for families.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The safety of pupils traveling to and from school must be the priority.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Why not have a small charge I had to walk 3 miles to high school	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If children already qualify for free travel on commercial bus services, could school buses have limited stops en route to schools to pick up non-qualifying pupils.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	All members of the public including young people must have reliable accessible transport system	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Make local school for local students a priority stop busing for miles to suit old fashioned ideas	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Cut the school transport, you pay for taxis which is wrong!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Cut the school transport, you pay for taxis which is wrong!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Travel to school by taxi should be abolished. It should be the parents responsibility to get their children to school if they do not live close to school, especially if they have access to transport e.g. I know of a family living on a farm who have two taxis picking up and dropping their children off even though both parents drive and have their own cars. Such a waste of public money!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Go to closer school	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Review catchment so that pupils attend their closest school. This currently is not the case.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Parental choice is a legal requirement, and parents can choose to attend schools other than the closest or catchment school.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	How much does the ID card scheme for children using WLC school buses cost? Why do kids getting on a school bus need to show a laminated photo ID to prove they are entitled to travel to school?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Transport subsidies are a joke for school provision. seems to be selective areas, ie upper class areas or poverty stricken, middle class / working class areas ignored.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Cancel the Horseburgh contract and show some concern for the health of the future generation	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Why not try the yellow school buses so beloved in America.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The service bus would need to turn up though, not always the case in Winchburgh.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There would need to be a priority to ensure the safety of children and members of the public on commercial bus routes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Include the School Transport Strategy into the Transport Model for West Lothian - referenced above.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Would t it be easier to use minibuses instead of actual buses if they are under utilised.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Could pupils/parents not; Just pay for these services if required rather than removing them altogether?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Public buses at no cost should be used as an alternative, however means of support for parents off the regular routes should continue to be supported.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Maybe council should support buses to be more greener and pull in external money to support changes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This move should co-incident with active travel infrastructure provision, otherwise it will just lead to even heavier traffic at school run times	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If school transport is under used any in any way, can others use the spare space (consolidating services to one area / shuttle bus service?)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ensure bus capacity / size is appropriate. Utilise spare spaces on the bus for travel to community hubs (shuttle buses)?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	NEC card makes sense. ; What about the amount spent on taxi's, will this be explored?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The Council spend far too much money on Taxis and Buses for school this service should be provide but there should be a charge to the parents on this especially for the Taxi's. Kids living out with the catchment area Parents either have to take their children to school or make alternative arrangement or pay towards the taxi service provided	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	My neighbours child was taken to school in a mini bus on their own as they wanted to attend a different school, surely this should be funded by parents if its not the local school or SEN	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Schools must do more to discourage "the school run" and encourage local children to walk to school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Parent engagement	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Still need to be care here as impact on kids getting to school?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Reviewing the location of schools services could open up ways to reduce costs for transport as with developments under way new schools are being built across a various councils and this is an area multiple councils could work together on to resolve to ensure the most cost effective and appropriate schools are available as an option in terms of catchment areas perhaps without impacting negatively upon those who would be present within their first choice catchment however.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What infrastructure is available at schools for secure bike parking? Surely if we could make that a priority then kids could enjoy the cycle to school together..	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I think this should be in place for S3 and up.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I would only cut the 'outwith' transport and have all children meet at a central stop for the school bus	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Again you need to work with commercial operators here. It's fine to ask young people to use the free pass, but bear in mind the impact that will have on the commercial service. It could overload the route at peak time's meaning that people going to and from work are stranded. Operators would need to review vehicle types used on heavy corridors. Also I doubt that any of the commercial routes would want to divert onto school premises. So you have to consider safety of the pupils as well.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This could work for high school aged children. But again only if buses remain subsidised. I'm less keen on the idea of doing this for young primary aged children	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	That's fine providing that there are alternative commercial buses are operating that can be used as three miles is too far for kids to walk if there are no alternative buses in operation.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Younger kids would still need help with buses.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	For this to be implemented, external funding should be sought to ensure safe routes to school for all. Children having to walk or cycle further to get to school where there are no safe routes is unacceptable. This needs to be factored into this proposed cut too.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	You need to more strict with who you give free travel too and review it better. There are people moving homes who are abusing the free bus pass and still use it even though they now live below the minimum distance. Where is the review of that when pupils update addresses? Williamston bus is very busy and everyone is happy to pay! We don't it for free, we want it to get our kids to school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I think that transport for children to ASN schools should be means tested and not a given. I am aware of a number of families who's children attend ASN schools and are transported by taxi. The council cover the costs of these taxi's however the families are in receive of benefits which include a very high level of mobility benefit. Why is this money not used for the taxi costs ?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Commercial bus routes are poor/non existent in some areas. A paid for bus service by parents could be an option?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There needs to be exemptions for children with ASN needs and also parking at schools for the people who will now need to take their children to school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Review before cuts	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	child bus pass past to be more accessible some have difficulty getting it online	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Good luck with this one! Seem to remember this policy has also been in the last 2 versions of this document and it always gets removed...	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	My son does not get free transport because we are means tested. We live in the furthest away property and all of our neighbours children receive free bus passes. I was told there was an administration error that cannot be resolved. Just lies! Means tested as we all know.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As an ongoing issue, I am fighting for the ability to pay for my son to use the school bus that leaves from the end of our road. Council policies and procedures mean this is not an option on our route. This year's review of school transport for our area has been a disgrace and the clear cost cutting measures to appoint the cheapest contract has already resulted in some serious concerns and near misses to pupil safety.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	feel some of kid's buses that are used are not safe for pupils	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	School transport from Kirknewton to Balerno has got worse to worse to worse - Prentice nice buses got replaced with falling apart Horseborough buses, this is a strategy?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	miroslav cervenak	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	J	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Safety	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ensuing adequate and safe commercial services are available must be in place before other services are cut.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	OK but little public transport that meets pupil to school in the Town of Linlithgow. Witness the Academy	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Services right now are not reliable which is being shown by children who already use public transport having difficulty being on time.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Punctual bus services would help	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This appears to have detail. You need to provide a one stop entitlement card approval service for this to be equitable.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	If public transport is made more reliable, routes made more functional and held accountable for poor service this is a good way to save money.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Reduce the school buses current ticket price for all children in catchment areas as not all can walk from their homes because scared from animals such as dogs.; Allow children to use the free cards in trains similar to buses as it can help families with life cost of living.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	the commercial bus routes been to be reliable, regular, decent times for travel offered before this could be done!!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is currently reviewing its Passenger Transport Strategy. The council currently subsidises 20% of the local bus network. The remaining 80% is provided by the commercial market and therefore the council has no authority over its operation, however the council has formed a partnership with local bus operators and transport partners with a view to improving public transport links in West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	There would need to more more service buses available at start and end of school days as they are already full most days and that's with school buses being used too.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What would you do to ensure standarisisation for commercial busses running the school route to ensure people can get to school on time. Busses have a tendency to not run to schedule.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Means testing for the Young Persons Transport as not all families will need it for their children of school age. And not all young Adults will need the extra support for transport as they don't go onto poorly paid jobs	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Need to legally inforce drop off of children within cars, no matter what if they can walk or get a bus as that is ridiculous	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The school transport is a joke, the buses are not fit for purpose and are never on time. We are supposed to be teaching children about the ways of the world how important it is to be on time and we fail almost daily to get them a bus service on time.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	If there has been a failure of service on our part and you are dissatisfied please use the formal complaints process to escalate this issue. Each complaint is fully investigated, reviewed by Senior Management and improvement actions are taken, where appropriate. The Council has a formal Complaint Handling Procedure, which all staff must follow, this is monitored by the Scottish Public Services Ombudsmen, who also deals with escalated complaints where a customer is dissatisfied with the council's response.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Free bus travel for children needs to be utilised more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Consider opening schools four days a week an option?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Currently schools are required to open on a set number of days, but this suggestion could be pursued with the Scottish Government on a national basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Get the commercial buses to run more useful abs less extortionate services.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	needs clarified prior to comments	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	It would not be right to offer feedback without a sound understanding of the services and service users this relates too.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.; ; There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Ok - as long as routes are safe for children to walk I assume? Pavements, crossings, adequately lit...? ; Young persons - this isn't clear are you saying free bus travel would be removed for commercial routes or what, not clear.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	This consultation survey does not give me the information I need to confidently comment on the projected savings. I would be concerned if school transport was impacted because this may lead to lower attendance levels at school because children and young people are unable to get to school. This would need to be discussed further with Head Teachers and other stakeholders. This may mean that children living in poverty will miss out on an education that will allow them to get well paid jobs. School is often the safest place for some children and if they are unable to get to school then it puts children at risk. This needs much more thought so it doesn't impact those who need help the most.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What are the minimum limits? This is not clear what is being changed at all.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	Why not state what the statutory limits are for comparison? Difficult to assess any impact as to whether it might be acceptable	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4C Reprioritised School Transport Strategy	What does this mean in practical terms.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I have never used it but actually had no idea it existed, maybe it has not been advertised well, for me if animals can be rehomed in a safe and stress-free way that benefits their welfare, I would be happy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	A shame but I can understand why it loses money. A bigger investment would have to be made to make it a paying attraction.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Makes sense, but as for some other proposals it is difficult to put a figure on this - the animal attraction at Beecraigs Country Park might be providing access to nature, animals and an experience that some families wouldn't otherwise be able to access/afford.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shame it's closing but if not getting the visitors then just have to close as long as the animals are relocated ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will consider all options for the rehoming of all the animals.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shame but if there is no alternative funding- and animals are relocated locally	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will consider all options for the rehoming of all the animals.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	small charge to see them? total shame to close this. some low-income families may use this instead of a zoo etc as free. its a lovely walk also	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has previously considered options to charge for visiting the animal attraction but this option was not considered as being viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If this is making a net loss then it needs to go- the organisation is not a charity.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Makes sense if running at a loss as its not sustainable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad to see it go but can't keep it while other more important matters need to be addressed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as the animals are rehomed in suitable facilities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will consider all options for the rehoming of all the animals.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but please ensure animals are placed appropriately	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will consider all options for the rehoming of all the animals.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	well ,if that has to happen,as long as the animal are to be safe and looked after	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will consider all options for the rehoming of all the animals.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Go ahead.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No objection, although the savings impact is minimal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed. Preference to seek to retain animals for display elsewhere in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Although this would be a great shame if operating at a loss it does not make sense to keep this open	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Rather sad, but if it is loss making then it is not sustainable. Is there scope for The 3 Sisters to take some on?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will consider all available options to rehome the animals.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Seems reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Understandable unfortunately as have only been once in 10 years. Please make sure no animal is put down.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will consider all available options to rehome the animals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That's a shame.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Great idea! Please ensure the animal welfare is top priority when choosing where their new homes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Times are tough and if this is an option. People can see animals at other attractions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree if venues are local and suitable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I visit Beecraigs, but don't think it would have a huge effect on people if it was to close.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shame, but this place has been a lose making facility for years. A shame again you only look at this now instead of wasting money for years.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a good idea, the council does not need to run this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If it is operating at a net loss this would seem like a cost effective option.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The petting pens didn't cost £95,000/yr. Tell me all those animals at Beecraigs aren't kept for people to look at????!! Let those farmers run a business, keep animals for a legitimate farming reason and people can still walk round and see that!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Great job.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shame but hard times ahead so agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad to see this go. Hopefully something else is done with the space	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	All options relating to the future use of the land and how it is managed without grazing will be considered by the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Makes sense maybe Mill Farm could take some.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as it is not at the expense of animal welfare in any way. The council would have to ensure that a similar level of care and space was accorded to the animals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a loss to the community but I understand the saving although it seems minimal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Better for animals. We go to Beecraigs for walks and not to watch animals in cages or pens	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Good idea . Beecraigs was once an animal attraction with deer and it's turned into a farm . Far to many sheep and cows .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree with this point.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	What a shame for the animals but as long as this is properly planned with animal welfare put first then fair enough. Seems like a tragic closure of a beecraigs attraction for something that will only save a relatively small amount of money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Bee Craig's has always ran at a loss especially the restaurant	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Good idea - the space would still be excellent wihout the animals	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad, I like beecraigs, but makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This I agree with, provided animal welfare is paramount.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Disappointing however understandable. West Lothian has limited visitor attracted this will be a blow.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The is a shame but if cuts are needed, then this would be an area with least human impact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I didn't even know this existed or was funded by the Council. Let it go.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I would reduce this area, with a more condensed animal attraction with much better media promotion/presence.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	as long as the animals have an appropriate relocation set up, i think this is fine. there are other areas in WL where people have access to seeing animals, although granted this incurs a cost. This seems like a completely reasonable thing for the council to do given the current financial difficulties. Much more appropriate than say social care or education budget cuts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I understand that the animal attraction is not making any money therefore I agree with the proposal to close it, as long as there are still people who will visit the park and that it remains open.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Do it, as long as the animals are treated well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Never really understood the usefulness of animal attraction, inclusion of local farmers would be far better.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a small saving but is probably sensible as very few visitors to the park spend time at the animal section.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Such a shame however, I would agree that in the current economic climate this would be a necessary efficiency measure.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad, but so long as the animals are rehomed carefully, then it makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This sounds like a good idea to avoid closure.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Seems reasonable. ; It is believed transport options to Beecraigs Country Park are too limited therefore limiting visitor numbers further.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It is sad, but understand that there are farms and zoo's that many parents take the children to.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a sad loss but a fair decision if the attraction isn't being used.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a shame but understandable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Would agree with this as long as the animals are safely relocated	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Totally agree with this. Need to prioritise essential services over 'nice to have' services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	ok - sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Remove	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I have no issues with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This seems a sensible suggestion	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Yep agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No issues it should not be running at a loss	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Operating at a loss is not sustainable so yes, I agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If nobody's really visiting them then fair enough. I'm not for the commercialisation of the outdoors really.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree with this, those visiting the park should be looking at nature not "farm" animals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree - animal attraction venue is a non-statutory service and should be relocated out with council operations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree there's plenty of laces to visit animals	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree with this as although it is nice to see the animals it is not essential to visiting Beecraigs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a shame but understandable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Animal attractions are not needed, close it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Needs must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If it's making a loss then fair enough	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree it is lovely but won't affect visitor numbers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad to see this go. However nice to have and not essential in the current climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a shame, but makes sense in the current economic climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	OK with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If it's not making money, they may as well do this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If they're not making money from it, why have it?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That makes absolute sense. I'm assuming, based on the statement less profit means not many visitors go to the park.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a shame, but we're not attracted to visit Beecraigs to see the animals as such.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as the animals are all found good homes then I support this,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed, I frequently use Beecraigs park and I believe the animal part is a waste of money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	agree; the park is a stunning beauty area, and this should not be impacted in any way	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This sounds like a simple and easy saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree the animals should be in a facility that can better cater for them if beecraigs is not a financially viable option.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If it's operating at a loss clearly a no brainer	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No issue with the removal of the animals, but we need the country parks to still be maintained to a decent level for allowing families and community to get out and about.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Without a lot of money spent to improve this attraction it isn't likely to improve it's financial standing, I agree this is the best course of action.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I didn't even know there was such a thing! - And I've lived in the district over 25 years!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Beecraigs is a lovely place to go for a walk or picnic or to fish for minnows in the pond. The animals are not really required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed. I don't believe the animal attraction actually attracts visitors. There is plenty more in beecraigs to attract visitors.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I love Beecraigs and all it offers, but I can't argue for the animal attraction to remain open in the current climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Reasonable proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If it is currently running at a loss then no point in continuing as long as animals relocated to good venues where looked after	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Best to send animals to Five Sisters Zoo or Edinburgh Zoo, to help the animals	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Beecraigs is too far away and there are no buses that go there. This could be good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree although never knew there was an animal attraction at beecraigs apart from fish	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	give the animals to five sisters zoo	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	agree - this area is not particularly engaging or interesting.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No comment, the animal attraction is not utilised enough and there are plenty of other animal attractions across West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If the park is making a loss then there's no point in continuing losing money. As long as animals are looked after in alternative accommodation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	An actual plan that I can understand! If it makes sense then yes, close it!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I actually didn't know this existed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could the zoo at Polbeth help with taking animals? Would be a shame to lose them from West Lothian	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Happy with this to gappen	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sounds like an actually good idea. This is the first good idea that I have read.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I wouldn't miss the animals being at BeeCraigs and I have young children. I feel that this is a good area in which savings could be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is very sad, but I do understand if there is money to be saved. You cannot operate animal attractions at a loss, animals are an expensive upkeep. As long as the animals are sent somewhere where they will be humanely cared for.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a nice thing to have but unfortunately there has to be sacrifices.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could be moved to nearby country park that already has animal attractions and keeps everyone happy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree, my children really liked walking within Beecraigs and looking at the animals, but I was always surprised by the lack of commercialisation of this. If the attraction is operating at a net loss, I would suggest that ways to generate greater revenue from the venue would be better than moving the animals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No issues there as long as the animals are relocated to a safe place where they will not be harmed and none will lose their lives to save the council money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Close it. These things need to be commercially viable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I assume we are talking about the deer. As long as the animals are relocated and treated well I see no problem with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I think this is a fair proposal as long as the animals are rehomed suitably. I have been to Beecraigs many times and never actually viewed the animal attraction, I'm sure many others are the same.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	OK; But why was the parking facilities expanded 18 months ago?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The car park facilities were extended to accommodate all visitors to the park and not solely for the animal attraction. Prior to the extension being opened the car parking facilities could not cope with visitor number in peak periods.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as steps are taken to ensure the animals are appropriately cared for at alternative venues, and families of animals are not split up	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Or yes close the attraction and relocate the animals. What would happen with the land, can it be leased to SRUC or farmer?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Disappointing but agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Yes the cost does not reflect the benefit of the facility	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Fine with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Nice	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Seems a shame but understand.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Happy with that	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I'm in agreement.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That would be a loss but an acceptable necessity I think.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	i support this. no one wants to make a loss. the demand clearly is not there so it should be closed or made private.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Close it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Animal welfare is of priority ,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If net loss then seems logical currently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	move them, never visited	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I think you're right - most people go for a nice walk -	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I personally have never had been to the Beecraigs Country Park as I would be unable to walk to the park and we both do not drive. it runs a net loss then I agree it should close and the animals relocated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Even though this saddens me to read, if the park operates at a net loss then it's a no brainer to close and relocate the animals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Hopefully visitor numbers will not fall as a result	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I live inside Beecraigs park this animal attraction is a joke, most of the animals are in fields far removed from the park, and most visitors drive by them thinking it's just farmer's cattle & sheet. Why do they have over 300 sheep & around 70 cattle, I strongly believe this is got out off control by managers & their family members. Wee should be looking to plant more trees for carbon figures & not having more & more animals polluting the air with their presence	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Although it is a shame, I have no objection to this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	While sad this seems a viable long term saving option	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	; The remains of the fish farm that was closed in 2009 still lie, a complete eyesore, unsafe and rotting in the Park for all to see with no action. Is the same planned for the AA? What is planed for the future?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will consider all options for the future use of the land.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Not enough detail to make constructive comments. Indeed those proposing the savings don't know enough as have never asked! The animal attraction (AA) is just that an attraction, has never been suggested to try and run at a profit or in a more efficient financial manor. The AA has in excess of 300 animals which will not be able to be relocated but will have to go to be culled either straight away or in a very short time frame. There are in excess of 1.4million visitors to Beecraigs the cost to those who come to see rare native Scottish breeds is minute compared to the pleasure and experience given. Tourist come specifically to see these animals close up and learn about the breeds. Volunteers, work placements, educations programmes with the Royal Highland Educational Trust and further education provided to SRUC college at Oatridge are a few of the benefits that this value for money service provide to people. As for the environment there are tree planting projects, hedgerow management, minimal ploughing, reduced fertiliser use, use of legumes, wild bird seed projects, all working towards carbon capture farm plans to use the AA as an exemplar and educational resource in this time of climate emergency when we have all to change to manage more efficiency.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	There is a zoo in the area, animals could be relocated there.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	as long as the animals are moved somewhere safe and are cared for then no issue with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	as long as they get a nice home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad to see it go but as long as there are some places near by in which to take kids to see up close without paying to enter	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree - however this is a very good example of the lack of forward thinking and CMT and elected members not making the difficult decisions. The council invested significant funds into building the new facility a few years ago when the correct decision was not to do it in the first place.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Would support that, not a fan of animals in cages.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a shame but operating at a net loss is unsustainable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	We've been a few times but it doesn't merit a visitor attention by any means	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	A small achievement.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sounds reasonable. The main attraction at Beecraigs is the play park, cafe and walks.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a shame for the animals but as long as they are deboned and not put to sleep.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Regrettable I suppose, but everything is currently being streamlined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but may be necessary .; Didn't realise you had an animal attraction there	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I like the animal attraction but think it makes sense to move the animals to save money!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as the animals are safely rehomed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The council should ensure the highest animal welfare at any relocation sites	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Although this would be an unfortunate loss, it is understandable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If it runs at a loss it should be closed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	this should be done as the taxpayer should not be paying for something that is running at a lost	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	ok never even knew you could see animals at beecraigs apart from the deer	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	can understand this however i think people go there alot to see the deers and the farmy bit with the cows	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Beecraigs is used alot for dog walkers and they are not allowed into the animal enclosures so I see this as a good move to close the animal enclosure and rehome them in a place where they shall have 24/7 care.; There has been times where animals have been disturbed by less caring visitors, if animals were moved it would be unlikely they would suffer at the hands of people less caring.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Animals need to be rehomed in the one place. Less staff would be required and care would be covered with a consistent team of knowledgeable people.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Would be a shame for it to go but wouldn't stop me visiting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I didn't know they had anima attractions at beecraigs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That seems to be a shame but I suppose makes sense. More job losses though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Whilst sad as was great with toddlers visiting the animals this seems a sensible cost daving albeit very small.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Didn't now there was an animal attraction	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agree fully with this, it is not a core service. Would also support a review to see what scope there is for further savings in Country Parks.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shame about this. But there is always Muiravonside. The farm there is much better anyway.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	A shame but there are many other options to see animals in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Ok, it is pretty rubbish although the Beecraigs park is generally very good!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sounds fair enough to transfer if it's losing money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No major concerns, but presume e.g. deer will remain.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	No, the deer are part of the animal attraction and would need to be sold and/or rehomed.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a shame but there is only a small number of animals currently at Beecraigs it is worth for it for this level of saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed, not appropriate for the council to provide.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree. We use that park for kids attractions and walks but never visit animal attractions	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Not the most important priority with the mess the country is in	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is not a core service - agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Personally I didn't even know the animals were there so will have to try and go and see them before this happens!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Unless you drive Beecraig not accessible. Makes sense to relocate/house the animals to an animal attraction venue. Eg Five Sister Zoo or Almond valley heritage centre.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shut it down and put funding elsewhere	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as the animals are well cared for, this makes sense. ; ; Thank you for making this one clear!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	cut the service	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Seems an easy saving, but could have a knock on effect on visiter numbers?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I would be delighted if you close it! It is a health hazard.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I think this could be a good saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This sounds fine as it is making a loss.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Fair assessment here as operating at a loss.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This makes sense. Love the Oreo cows but it doesn't have high footfall.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Happy to support this move.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Often visit Beecraigs and personally very rarely go to see the animals. Dont think this would be a big loss to visitors as long as animals were going to be well cared for in new accomodation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That's a shame. But if its running at a loss then you have to do something.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Reuse the animal areas for bike tracks or similar additional adventure exercise.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad but agree it's necessary	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Yes close it as a lot of money is required for a natural environment otherwise it is cruel to keep them confined.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Agreed, but ensure that locations are displayed at Beecraigs showing where the children's (and adults) favourites have been moved to and if possible staff that the animals are familiar with are re-employed with them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Such a shame as I didn't even know such an attraction existed. Perhaps with greater promotion this may not have been a loss making service. ; I'd expect safe standards of animal care in the alternative locations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as the animals are relocated to services where they are properly cared for I would see this as being sensible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree...relocate the animals	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The only proposal so far to have an actual action that I understand! Seems reasonable under the financial restrictions faced by the council at this time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I did not even know about this so perhaps either loose it or advertise it better?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If this is running at a net loss and it will have minimal impact on visitor numbers then it is very unfortunate but a necessary decision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Whilst disappointing if savings require to be found then this is an area which could be supported, provided animals were suitably rehomed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Never knew Bee craigs even had an animal attraction. Maybe at a net loss because it is not well known. If a small number of people see it and the animals are accessible nearby then it shouldn't adversely affect the local community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	With no personal transport of my own a visit to beecraigs is a rare pleasure so I would not miss the animal attraction and it could be closed with the animals responsibly rehomed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Have a facility/parks where kids can go to see the animals and their natural habitat	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I'm dumbfounded that this 95k saving could have such a massive impact on this valuable community service - this sounds like a very small saving and would have a massive impact on the passionate and committed team whom have invested so much of themselves in the project - this clearly has not been thought through	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	It is acknowledged that this proposed saving will have an impact on the team that delivers the service. However, the council needs to consider all available saving options.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This will be a loss for local communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	what animals ? thats well advertised then !. maybe if you stop expanding livi on all sides with stupid badly planned streets and badly made houses (2-4 solar panels taking up a wee bit of roof will do Nowt for bills, fill it up and make all the roof area south or west facing as std) we would have nature to view on our doorstep thats free to view.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Open as a public park with staff not needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Staff are required to ensure all the council's parks and open spaces are maintained in a safe and fit for purpose condition for all visitors.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is all good and well, but some families cannot afford animal attractions such as zoo's, so we are taking away much needed resources	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	People go to see the animals. Offer a more hands on experience, let visitors pay to feed the animals, charge a small fee for parking. No one buys venison so involve schools to educate and learn about wildlife. Beecraigs is a huge part of West Lothian identity and attracting visitors is key. Closing the animal attraction is killing the identity and essence of beecraigs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has previously considered options to charge for visiting the animal attraction but this option was not considered as being viable. The Ranger Service currently provide free educational events for the public and laise with schools.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Not enough of a saving to warrant closure	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a real loss to the park. It is a big attraction for families who then go on to spend at the café. Would it be possible to look at alternative ways of raising income from visitors to support this?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has previously considered options to charge for visiting the animal attraction but this option was not considered as being viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	You will struggle to place those animals in good homes. I know eg Muiravonside (different council authority) is also closing their animal attractions and face rehoming many animals. I cannot understand why the Council does not charge for these attractions. Even a nominal £2 per person and car parking charge would help cover costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council will consider all options for the rehoming of all the animals. The council has previously considered options to charge for visiting the animal attraction but this option was not considered as being viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Would be a shame to see this happen; Families need to be encouraged to visit outdoor centres as part of wellness and good health. It's important to teach children how to look after our environment for future generations	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The Ranger Service currently provide free educational events for the public and laise with schools.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	There is no promotion of Beecraigs Country Park as an animal attraction centre which may be one of the reasons it runs at a loss.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Beecraigs Country Park, including the animal attraction is advertised on the council's website and via social media.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Not everything has to make a profit. Some things are investments into communities.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Where will the animals be relocated? Will it be within West Lothian or is this another learning resource/ attraction being removed?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	It is still to be determined where the animals will be located to. However, the council will look at all available options for the rehoming of the animals.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I would disagree with the no effect on numbers as people travel from all over the world to see the Highland cattle and sheep. I personally have had an American visitor cry and shake with joy because I let her get close to a highland cow from the other side of the fence and she got to clap it. Animals are a must. The viewing shed is busy all day with visitors going to see what animals are in there each week.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	To see the animals why don't u charge a 1.00 fee.....	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has previously considered options to charge for visiting the animal attraction but this option was not considered as being viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Also reviewexpenditure on salmon ladders, was this the best use of public purse, can't see them bringing tourists to west lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council doesn't own any salmon ladders.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	But children who do go to Beecraigs Country Park are well rewarded.; Savings of £95,000 are small compared with other savings proposed. ; Savings are mainly staff costs?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The savings relate to all the operational costs associated with the operation of the animal attraction including staff costs.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I can understand this, but it will be a disappointment to many people as often visiting Beecraigs is not just to see the woodland or the play facilities, but also to see the animal attractions	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	A lot of people visit Beecraigs to see the animals, especially families with children. I think removing the animals would mean less familes wanting to visit and therefore could impact on the overall park.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a loss for a huge generation of young visitors. Contact with agricultural animals is an important part of understanding the countryside and the food chain. At such a small cost, surely the value it brings to visitors is more important. Visitor numbers are immaterial but on a cost-benefit analysis, £95,000 is insignificant when compared to what it provides.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I really enjoy seeing the animals there, maybe some reminders that they are there would be good to boost visitor numbers?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Beecraigs Country Park, including the animal attraction is advertised on the council's website and via social media.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I think this is a shame. I visit here regularly with both my children and have done for the past 11 years!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If used extensively by schools then I would not support unless alternative options were available within the Council boundary	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This seems a shame. Surely you need animals to graze the land?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	All options relating to the future use of the land and how it is managed without grazing will be considered by the council.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This seems a real shame for a relatively small saving.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Such a shame for this to be removed, as it is always well used by many famous in West Lothian. I'm sure by cutting some of the CEO salaries/councillors expenses, that amount could be saved that way!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	These suggestions are getting more and more depressing. How about we relocate west Lothian Council outwith the area. I'm sure local citizens would expect this to have minimal impact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It would be sad to lose this attraction.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	So many years of investment put in the bin!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If its operating at a loss why do you not do something to entice people to visit.; Welcome to West Lothian!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a real shame. Beecraigs is a fabulous resource in West Lothian and the animals are a huge part of that. Perhaps the shutting of the visitors centre at the animal park location has reduced income as the new cafe/centre is further away.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is terribly sad and a huge loss to the local area	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	We need our parks, they need to be funded.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	A shame	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It is big minus	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I disagree that the animal attraction will not be missed and they are an import part of the park and attraction for visitors	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It would be a shame and result in job losses.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Will this be more houses? Hence ruining the remoteness of Beecraigs and the enjoyment of walking.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	No, the land is protected as agricultural/open space in the Local Development Plan.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a great shame and will negatively impact the quality of experience enjoyed at Beecraigs. As a regular visitor to the park, I know that the animals provide a great attraction for children and adults alike. To be able to view deer and highland cows and sheep up close shouldn't be viewed as surplus to requirements. The nearest wildlife, or Safari Park is 40 miles away.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If we could support this staying open - through donations to a charitable trust - then we would. The animals are a key part of Beecraigs. It would be sad and unhelpful to lose them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Redic. Let's get rid of the animals, oh then lets build more homes. Stop building on funky Country areas, just stop building new homes when the council, health, roads and more can't cope with it!!!! It's not rocket science	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Parks and animal attractions are needed to aid in a childs natural learning.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is an attraction I will miss a lot!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Within Parks & Woodland there are services where frontline contact and communication is integral to the multiple services provided, ensuring clarity, understanding, welcome, quality customer service, etc. Clearly if the Council decide to remove some of the existing services, there would be a reduction in related demand.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Again children who cannot afford to visit farms with entrance fees will miss out on significant life experiences. Where else can children learn about farming without having to pay for the experience.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This will again impact the experiences of children and increase the poverty gap. Families who cannot afford to pay entry fees to zoos and parks will no longer be able to have similar experiences.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If the animal attraction closed, what would the Council do with the land and the units on site? I very much hope that the Council will retain budget to provide alternative provision for the public on this land e.g. extended woodland, paths. Unfortunately we had hoped this would have happened when the fish farm facility closed but the site has been left abandoned and unmanaged, questioning who will also take over that location in the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	All options relating to the future use of the land and how it is managed without grazing will be considered by the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The Animal Attraction went through a "council review" previously whereby the number of red deer (when we only had red deer) was drastically reduced and it was then deemed to be able to operate sustainably. I am aware that the Attraction now has cattle, sheep and deer so the head of animals has increased but please provide greater detail on costs and losses of the animal attraction.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The attraction operates at a net loss? You're not measuring the positive impact that it has on people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is disappointing as my children enjoy going to see the animals as we walk around Beecraigs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Savings not good enough to make this worthwhile.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a massive loss. Extremely disappointing. Not everyone can afford to go to safari parks & zoo's etc so parks like these are a must for the community. Children thrive seeing the animals on their doorstep. Surely some kind of d public donations or parking charge like muiravonside introduced could help save such important parks & animals stay at beecraigs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a real shame. It's an opportunity for kids, older people, people with additional needs etc to see animals for free in a natural environment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That is a massive shame... but understandable.; I cant say i am happy about it but reluctant to agree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I would not support this, the animal there bring happiness to lots of children without the worry parents about the additional expense. However in order to support this I would be willing to pay a yearly fee of around £10 to support beecraigs animals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Such a shame to see this close. Please take care of the animals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Doesn't seem like a big enough saving to justify taking this away.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Disagree,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Not good	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	not happy with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is outrageous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Dreadful proposal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is just sad really	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be terrible and great loss to West Lothian. There would be a mass exodus to Muiravonside Country Park. How about a box for donations from the public? I'm sure plenty of people will happily put some money in as they look at the animals IF you actually told people the financial situation.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The majority of people who visit Beecraigs go to see the animals. I have no idea where you are getting your information from! Seems the tory side of the Lab/Con coalition is having a massive influence on West Lothian Councils policy makers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Are you joking. I have grand children, great nieces and nephews who love this How will it not impact the park	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a huge loss for the community and for those who cannot afford to pay to take their children to places such as Almond Valley.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It's always nice to see the animals but this is a cost I would not mind saving. Albeit it is sad from a nostalgic point of our children not growing up with what we had available. Nostalgia doesn't help the purse strings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Why not close down everything that doesn't make money. Social enrichment isn't important. You could turn off the street lights while we're at it. And people could take their own rubbish to the tip. What a disgrace!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I don't agree with this proposal. Find ways to generate income at the facility instead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Benefitting all you have to agree; Ticking all the boxes for all to see; Mental health, walking, interacting with the animals, educational too; And in these hard and difficult times you have to agree; It is an escape from reality for you and me.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Please do not close the Animal Attraction; I implore you; It means so much to our visitor paying customers; Just think of the children too; You should see their little faces lighting up with glee, when they tell you all about the animals that they want to see. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Not a significant measure and the savings are negligible compared to the goodwill from service users sacrificed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Keep it, good for family days out	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Beecraigs itself is an important resource and mus not be threatened.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	You should keep these services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Absolutely gutting & completely short sighted. These are assets that set up apart and help educate children. Terrible & shameful to remove them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	How do you know that this will have minimal impact on visitor numbers? And I don't just mean dog-walkers etc but real , a half-day-out visitor that will hopefully enjoy the cafe, the visitor centre and the walks. I think for most parents with young families, the animal attraction is priceless. Why else would you visit Beecraigs? The activity park and that's it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This will be a sad day and it is one of the few attractions which it is possible to easily walk too from Linlithgow or for other venues in other towns.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This will be a loss	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	keep it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would have a negative impact on the residents of WL as we should be encouraging outdoor activities for health and wellbeing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Concerns over taking facility away that encourages people to go outside, especially younger children. If no animals what would the land be used for and have the costs of the alternative use/maintenance of the land been taken into account of in the estimated saving	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Another blow to children. Why is this expected to have minimal impact on future visitors.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a very sad and disappointing decision. Our children spend many weekends visiting Beecraigs, particularly the animal section and have been brought up visiting this attraction.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The plan should be to provide more attractions here to increase visitors numbers. ; Animal experiences, making use of the pond and fishing space. ; Closing services is not the answer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	People go beecraigs to see the animals with out them the footfall will drop drastically. Not everyone can Afford to take their kids to zoos etc due to the cost of living so taking away a free chance to see the animals is ridiculous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	By passing to alternative animal attraction venue(s) out with council operations you are not employing a holistic approach and merely passing over to another agency. Not all attractions should make a profit and surely those attractions which do make a profit can be used to assist those which run at a "loss".	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is already an unpopular idea. I don't think we have had a good business strategy for the country parks for years. Generally speaking, better off people use country parks (check the cars in the car park) and would pay for extras if they were available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	the animal attractions at Beecraigs are one of only a handful of places our children can go and enjoy the animals and learn about them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	no - get rid of a few subsidized buses and keep it open. Get rid of subsidized rail fayre for well off pensioners going to the Xmas market and drinks in Edinburgh and keep the animal attraction open	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	that is a shame it is going to close my kids love seeing the animals. it is also a valuable learning tool for young people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No. More advertising that this park exists and what is there is needed. Keeping the park and its animals is needed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Should stay open as it is a lovely attraction and the Animals home.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I think this is really sad for our local area, I know many families who enjoy walks around this attraction.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No dont agree. For the amounts involved this should be kept as is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Don't agree. Many people use this park and f for the cost represents very good value for money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That's a shame I enjoy the deer etc up at beecraigs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Very sad. Places like muiravonside run an amazing site. How is that funded?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Disappointing as this is used by many people living in the area and is great fir young children.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Promote it more, not enough savings to justify,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	mental health is improved with access to outdoor areas. Any changes will impact residents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Poor	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Nooooooooo! Please don't get rid of the animals!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a backward step as Beecraigs is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the area. Can the business model be reconsidered instead of moving the animals? The attraction with be significantly weaker without them and in turn, likely lead to less income via tills in the cafe etc. Essential to avoid short-sighted cuts and this looks like one.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I disagree with this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad to see them go	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	KEEP THIS OPEN!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Disagree there must be ways of raising funds car parking ? Entry costs ??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a shame	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I feel sad about this, especially as the saving - in the grand scheme of things - isn't that much.; The animal attraction is a free and fun thing to do especially for families who perhaps can't afford to go to paid attractions very often.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Another local resource taken away due to financial implication! Children and families enjoy this space. Being able to visit somewhere like this is amazing, which has the range of activities to choose from at a free cost!! ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Beacraigs is a great place for exercise and mental health. It's lose would be detrimental.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Deer oh Deer unbelievable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I don't think this is the level of savings that we need to focus on.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Dont do it!! This is a draw for people to the park - minimal savings, maximum disappointment - A Country park with no animals???. Some families cant afford to go to bigger animal attractions. This is free.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is vital for kids' learning and general health and wellbeing of residents. Bad idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	NOT SURE HOW RUNS AT LOSS, GIVEN DOESNT CHARGE. ONLY ASSUME BREED TO CULL AND IF NOT WHY NOT?. NEVERTHELESS, THE AMOUNT IS NOT A HUGE FIGURE FOR THE PLEASURE THE SITE CREATES TO THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE WHO VISIT IT EVERY DAY/WEEK. THIS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ABOVE ALL BEFORE CUTTING FOR CUTS SAKE. TO MANY SERVICES WILL BE CUT AND THE LAST NEEDED IS THINGS THAT CREATE WELLBEING AND WELLNESS IN VISITORS	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a sad loss to those of us who frequent the park. The saving seems small in comparison to the others discussed in this consultation and the value of getting up close to the animals at Beecraigs is great. This is one of the few, free opportunities for urban residents of West Lothian to see farm animals close up.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Wow more bad news, I feel sorry for my generation, nothing bad bad news, very bleak	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad to read that this is being closed as would love it to "still be there"....That's from a personal perspective of someone who loves that area and would like to see even more on offer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I believe closing the animal attraction would have a negative impact on the community. The animal attractions provide educational and mental health benefits alongside physical health benefits. The animal attraction does as it says, it attracts people to beecraigs and from the animal area they can then enjoy the walks and other attractions there. For many young children this can be the stepping stone to a healthy lifestyle	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	; I am a personally appalled that this suggestion has been put forward with so little thought, understanding or consideration for any of the staff involved in managing this facility. Change has to come but you have to bring the staff with you not disregard them with no respect for the hard work and dedication that has been given over years. I doubt there are many other employees in the Council who work as hard. The way this was proposed has shown a complete lack of respect for all the staff and visitor.; There is so much more that could be said but whether any account will be taken or it is just an accounting exercise is to be seen.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	; To say that the AA runs at a loss does not put any value at all on all of the added value that this facility brings to Beecraigs and West Lothian. And to say that there will be no reduction in visitors is naive in the extreme. Huge numbers of those who visit ask specifically to be directed to the AA and about the animal themselves. The view from the visitor centre window if filled with them, our meadows are grazed by the animals, our urban meadows are cut by their machinery! This is a small operation that costs nothing in comparison to its value and compared to waste that can be seen elsewhere in the council in a daily basis it is unbelievable that this is even being considered.; ; What plans are there if this were to go ahead, this is an integral part of the country park where there are access routes, fences and pathways as well as informal access. Future management and maintenance would still be necessary but without the income currently through IACS and SFP. We already have more trees than we are able to manage with current resources in West Lothian. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Such a shame this is a fantastic facility and only needed some different advertising and promotions to make it a profitable business, new ideas couldve made this a great attraction to the local area. animals are fantastic therapy and this couldve been developed to help people with mental health problems. This didnt need to happen	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It's not clear if this represent any loss of jobs? If the saving is only £95,000, I'd expect the council be confident this loss does not have a significant wider impact they have not quantified i.e. the loss of footfall that is attracted by the animal attraction may be contributing well beyond £95,000 to the wider park income generation and/or the wider local economy including retail and accommodation etc. There will be a tipping point whereby if you strip facilities from a large Country Park one at a time, it will cease to be a regional or national destination. The play area, footpath networks, and toilets, are already compromised by a lack of investment.; ; I would suggest £95,000 is not worth the risk of compromising the overall value of the Country Park, if the animal attraction is not profitable, consider investment to get it into profitability,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I like it though so no, don't close it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Beebraigs farm has been a pivotal place for me growing up. To take this away from other children growing up in West Lothian would be a disgrace. I have brought my family from around the UK and further afield who absolutely love the farm. The opportunity to see animals so close in the viewing shed is an amazing experience and makes this so accessible to people who don't have access to a farm. What is your plan with the animals? 100's of animals? The opportunity for re-homing is laughable. I think it is very naive to say that visitor numbers would not be affected by this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Absolutely terrible idea!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Very disappointing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad news	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	OMG	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I disagree with animals getting taken from one habitat aka beebraigs to another	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I think West Lothian community should get a larger vote on this and in order to do so we'd need to know where the animals were ended up. They have a very rare breed of sheep, and last I'd heard they were possibly going to breed them to help save the breed itself. That seems like a big deal. And honestly the best thing about beebraigs is going in the spring to see the baby deer and how close the females come to the visitor centre. Everyone knows beebraigs = deer. I was born in the 90s and always went to see them. And my children have started growing up with the same things. Would be a shame to lose this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. It has still to be determined where the animals will be rehomed. The council will consider all available options for the rehoming and sale of all the animals.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No, Beebraigs is magical place for families and seeing animals there its great adventure	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Again, we are a joke! I blame Scottish Government	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Sad.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The animal attractions at Beebraigs encourages people, including families, to access nature and encounter animals first hand, which is extremely valuable in a society that is increasingly detached from the natural world.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Bad management here I'm afraid - this sort of facility is hugely successful in other parts of the country?? Rethink please - join up with other services/sectors - including voluntary ones.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This feature is not well advertised!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Remove it, if you want to see animals visit a zoo. Or look at the wild life.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I think this would definitely impact visitor numbers. The animals at Beebraigs are an excellent resource as many families especially in the current climate can't afford visits to farms etc. We want to encourage care for the environment and time spent in nature and Beebraigs is important for this. There are no other opportunities for animal visits of this kind in West Lothian.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I am sad at this as my children love going here and seeing the animals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a bad idea families need to be in tune with nature so many green areas are being laden with houses!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Any move of animals will mean that many who cannot afford to pay to go to zoos etc will not have access to wildlife, however anything that currently runs at a loss needs to be considered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Don't agree this is a great place for the kids to walk around and see the animal without it costing parents who can't afford to go other venues. Also great educational experience can be met at Beecraigs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a sad and disappointing loss to many people, especially young families. Quality of life is important and this would have a much greater impact on the west lothian community than the £94, 000 saving could justify.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Disagree with this. Very little green spaces and attractions around as houses are constantly being built here. I'm sure if a barrier were out I. Car parking and a small fee required, people would pay it to keep the animals at Beecraigs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Would be sad to see this go	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It is a long time since I visited the animal attractions but did so when the family was young - and it was the reason we went. However, the welfare of the animals must be uppermost. Where however, could families freely visit animals if this were to be closed?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Very disappointing. Once again WLC happy to take our money but consolidate facilities closer to HQ. I'm sure axing an exec would more than cover this once you factor in salary and pension + benefits.....	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This provides young people with an opportunity to engage with nature and farming in a way that many in an increasingly urbanised area are not often able to.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I am concerned of the impact on families who cannot afford to pay to have these experiences at privately owned venues. Once again widening the gap between those who have the means and those who do not, having an impact on childhood attainment through lack of access to these opportunities and experiences .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	In times of cutting costs, this is understandable but would be a real shame - being able to see and engage with Scotland's animals, particularly for farming, is a fantastic opportunity for young people to learn more about them and connect with where their food comes from.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	will be a shame to lose the animals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The animal attraction is one of the free attractions available to all children to enjoy regardless of their background and should not be closed. Alternative animal attractions are expensive and unaffordable to a vast amount of families. There is already a lack of free facilities in West Lothian for families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a major attraction of Beecraigs and has been for many years. For the relatively small saving this should be removed as a consideration. Numbers will definitely be impacted too. A net loss perhaps but this is something I don't mind my council tax going towards.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	What is the proposal to provide access to city farms for children in lieu of this closure?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	There is currently no proposal to consider City Farms. However, officers will consider this option going forward as an alternative solution to providing an animal attraction.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	What a huge loss for our country park. They bring a lot of pleasure to visitors.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is not good.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I feel if this attraction closes people would not use the park at all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It will be sad to see this go.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Totally against this. We travel to Beecraigs at least once a month to see the animals. Would we bother if there were no animals? Probably not. Would be interested to know how you arrive at visitor numbers and how you would ever expect something like this to run at a profit?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	West lothians main country park and you want to close it. Absolutely no sense.; ; This is a park used widely by the locals and is the main one this should be saved and kept up.; ; Why don't you look at reducing cars for the council workers instead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shame.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Regularly visit Beecraigs and it would a shame not to be able to see the animals as it is very much part of our route and many others to see the sheep, deer etc. Always been a loss that feeding fish section was closed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Not making much of saving	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Kids need more facilities to learn play and grow in ; Basketball parks ; Excercise parks ; Football parks	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I disagree, this area should be developed more and closer links made with schools and communities. Removing this connection with nature would be a mistake.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This facility has provided endless enjoyment for our family and friends growing up. There are very few opportunities to get up close to farm animals and see them being worked if you are luck enough to be there on a day when the staff are moving them around. They are always most helpful and take the time to explain about what they are doing and why, to the point where they offered my daughter the opportunity to take up a work placement before going to vet school (essential experience to get in). I know that they have provided this for many vet students as well as offering hands on lambing experience for many more. Given the numbers who visit and the wide ranging benefits this facility provides to visitors and tourists a like this seems a very short sighted option to take when surely there are many other areas the council could be looking at that don't provide as many all round benefits as this?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I am a senior citizen aged 73. Have read issue 100 Bulletin. All I wish to report is yes open spaces in Livingston are great but need to be save in deserted areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I don't see the benefit of this, the animal attraction at Beecraigs is integral to its offering. With better marketing through Visit West Lothian, this could become a real selling point - see the Cairngorm Reindeer Herd, or the Scottish Deer Centre as comparatives.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	removing the animal from their home –sad	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I didn't even know there was this attraction at Beecraigs	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	What is the animal attraction at Beecraigs? Is this not a farm? I visit Becraigs to walk my dog at least once a week and didn't know this was funded by the Council.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Firstly we are not a "Country Parks Service", we are "Parks & Woodland" covering way more service functions than just the 3 Country Parks.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Has this closure been discussed with the Parks & Woodland Manager? Are you correct with your calculations to ensure that you can validate that the facility is, like the old fish farm facility (we had before), been operating at a loss?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This proposal is being consulted with staff and the public simultaneously. All financial calculations have been validated prior to publication.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I assume this will also be a reduction in staff. Staff should be relocated else where.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Yes, if the animal attraction closes, it would be the intention to redeploy staff elsewhere within the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Aw.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	no involvement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Don't care	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	no comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No views on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This doesn't affect me so I can't comment on something I know nothing about.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I love Beecraigs country park and think it is a great space in West Lothian, I do not have any issues removing the animal attraction but please continue to provide a great park to walk/cycle/ run in.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to maintain all country parks, parks and open spaces in accordance with council service standards.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Get public help and sponsors and do more to promote the place	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is actively looking at options for sponsorship and commercial opportunities within its three country parks. The country parks are regularly promoted on the council's website and via social media.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	balabnce saving against visitors cut if needed	4. The council is already doing this.	As the park is free for visitors to visit, any variation in visitor numbers will have no impact on the proposed saving.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Where will the animals go? And presumably wherever they do go, there will be a cost attached to seeing them?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council consider all options for the rehoming of all the animals.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shame, for many young people it's a way for them to see farm animal up close without having to pay. Maybe if the council would sell venison, lamb, and beef like they used to in the visitor centre it would help mitigate these losses.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council did this in the past and stopped the service as it was non-profitable.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I've been in beecraigs countless times and didn't even know there was an animal attraction there	4. The council is already doing this.	Beecraigs Country Park, including the animal attraction is advertised on the council's website and via social media.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As long as the land is not developed for housing and it's zoned so it can never be touched	4. The council is already doing this.	The land is protected as agricultural land in the Local Development Plan.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That is disappointing to hear, I love Beecraigs CP and would be sad to see it close. ; Could it be reduced in some way to negate costs? (ie selling off of fishery area / demolition? and same for similar areas of Beecraigs? ; ; May involve the sale of areas of the land / park, but what about holiday cabins in the park? If these were present then there would not only be increased tourism to Beecraigs itself, but also to the wider WLC area... Would then justify the keeping of the animal attractions and could perhaps revive the fishery area? (Consider impact of increased tourism to surrounding areas, in particular Linlithgow, which is bad enough with traffic normally...)	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently looking at all available commercial opportunities for the park and currently provides log cabins within the caravan park area. The proposal is not to close the park, only the animal attraction within the park.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Will the park still be opened for visiting ?	4. The council is already doing this.	Yes, the park will still be open for visiting. The proposal only relates to the closure of the animal attraction and not the wider park.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Provide a commercial franchise at the parks for coffee, hot chocolate ice cream.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The savings made need to be put back into other elements of the Park service though and not sidelined off to cover other budget areas.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Potentially looking at peoples contracts who decide to sit in a WLC van for hours on end because it's 'raining' or they want an extended lunch break would be a better idea. People who are paid to work a certain amount of time should be doing that - not leaving work 1 hour early and if that was the case then do not get paid for it.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Again, look at management savings first.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Their is no investment at Beecraigs. I have seen a Hugh decline in visitors because their is no investment in visitor attractions.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Privatise beecraigs minimal support in transfer of ownership	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	All country parks should have a space for dogs only as there are two many dogs foiling parks in Westlothian and dog owners are not picking there dogs dirt up	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could you work with Falkirk Council to ensure that either Beecraigs or Muiravonside are kept. Losing both would be a bad step for local youngsters.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Services running at a loss are not cost effective however is there an option to merge the Beecraigs Country Park with another service to save closure?	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	So you will get rid of the deer, cows and sheep? You should do what you used to do in the shop and sell the meat from these animals in the same way any commercial farm and teach children and adults where food comes from.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Please please keep the deer and sell venison to subsidise them. The cows can go. ; Disagree that this will not impact on visitor numbers.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	There needs to be more information about this - what does the £95,000 equate to? Is it just the management of the animals? Or does this include staff resources? Does it include the cost of land management (as the land will still need to be managed), or does it assume the land is leased out or sold? ; ; The Animal Attraction model is actually currently being reviewed - it does provide an invaluable rural educational experience for schoolchildren right across West Lothian. However, the workings of the farm could be completely overhauled, with a complete refocus of aims and objectives to turn it into a rural land management exemplar. For example, it could be an exemplar of regenerative farming and crofting, with extensive diversification (such as rewilding some areas and utilising permaculture methods to make the cultivated areas as productive as possible) Work could be carried out in partnership with SRUC Oatridge, the Nature Friendly Farming Network, Locavore and/or Cyreneans to make this happen. The farm could then contribute to local, sustainable food networks, as well as WLC carbon sequestration and still act as an educational resource, as well as offering local employment. The Bathgate Hills are an exceedingly valuable agricultural resource and the land owned by WLC should be utilised to its fullest extent, to the council's best advantage.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Officers will consider all available options for the future management of the farm and/or the land. This will include exploring options for partnership working with other stakeholders and/or charity organisations.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Can local farmers step up - could there be a partnership with charities or the RSZS?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Officers will consider all available options including options for partnership working with other stakeholders and/or charity organisations.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Parks & Woodland currently staff and operate 2 frontline Visitor Centres; are either of these being considered for change in how and who run them? This survey has provided very little detail as to how this would be played out.; It has been considered in the past at Almondell Visitor Centre but nothing came of this. I feel it would be extremely short-sighted and naive if West Lothian Council did not continue to operate the Visitor Centre at Beecraigs which has been a flagship location/facility promoting West Lothian's outdoors for decades.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The animal attraction at Beecraigs Country Park is without doubt one of the main attractions, after the play park. I believe this would definitely have an impact on visitor numbers and visitors would choose other country parks such as Muiravonside. At Muiravonside a £1 parking fee is charged. The council should introduce this at Beecraigs as it is a minimal cost but would bring in a profit.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Very disappointing. The animals at Beecraigs are much loved and encourage families to get outdoors - good for physical and mental health. Could an alternative be explored - e.g. a small fee for visitors to enable the attraction to break even?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I wouldn't go to beecraigs if animals weren't there.; Charging entry to the animals, take an example from 5 sisters zoo and charge for experiences to raise money.; There is so much more that could be done with bee Craig's to raise money	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a shame. Can you not solicit donations or charge entry?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	More advertising, new management, use to help kids with social anxiety through alternative education, get volunteers to help.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could this not be used as part of the agile learning approach? Where is the joint up thinking?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	this would be a shame for a relatively small saving - can there not be charity boxes instead to provide for this, .	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It would be a real shame if Beecraigs was to lose the animal attractions , can it be done more efficiently rather than eliminated entirely. Could volunteers be enlisted to help ?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could this be a fee paying option in the park to help cover cost and promoted as more of an attraction?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Suggestion is that the animals are given to the Five Sisters Zoo, as this is a great facility and their care of animals is outstanding	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. There are too many animals to rehome them all at Five Sisters Zoo. However, we will consider rehoming some of them at the zoo.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Shame but I can see the point. Has anyone attempted a business plan to develop the Beecraigs animal attraction concept and to see if people are prepared to pay for it?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The same could be applied to library provision but I would not wish them to close. Alternative ways should be sought to make the service commercially viable. If the private sector can do it, why can't the public sector as no profit is required.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The MTB area at Beecraigs needs work, possibly working with experienced trail builders could help to get more out of the area.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Have all avenues been explored with volunteers, such as is the case with the animal attraction at Muiravonside?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This has been open for years and enjoyed by countless children. Can an alternate be looked for to reduce cost of running? Use of volunteers? Donations?? Sponsorships?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It's a relatively small saving, perhaps the facility should be marketed better to increase footfall?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The farmland that is currently there will that be returned to sound agricultural use?; Will that generate rent?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Can't this be changed to a money making scheme rather than just closing? With minimal investment it could turn into a venue like Mill Farm.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Oh no I love them, it wouldn't run at a loss if you charged to see them, you can walk round any country park for free so of course it's making a loss, you just need to look at other options, sometimes it's the only way I can persuade my son to go to Beecraigs, we go see the animals and a quick play at the park, I'd pay to see them	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Would it not make more sense to have a low cost admission fee and or annual pass to beecraigs? It's it used by soo many people and would be missed by the community. This would make it at least break even	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I have never heard of this, do you charge the public, if not, why not?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Advertising of some council run areas, as above, could be better...in; order to attract families....	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	WLC has very few visitor attractions, other than Livingston for shopping & Linlithgow Palace. With Lowport having closed Beecraigs is now one of the few places to enjoy. maybe better to have a model similar to Muiravonside.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If this is in relation to the owl Center the reason it is at a loss as it is completely overpriced and not justifiable for what it is. Cheaper excursions create more people wanting to go which overall actually creates more money.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The proposal relates to the closure of the animal attraction in Beecraigs Country Park. The Owl Centre is a private franchise located at Polkemmet Country Park and is not related to the savings proposal.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is sad news for our community.Perhaps greater awareness needed.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The country parks are great, but linhouse circular has a gap of safe ways in. Particularly the murieston end, the way in is via zero pavements on a blind bend with oncoming traffic. This beeds improved for safety. Also it is not safe when cars park there, it makes it even harder to see. Its impossible to get there safely with a dog and pram. It needs a pavement to it at the very least. Some additional entrances, for instance from the miller/bellway development	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Introduce charging for the attraction and expand its service to make more attractive? Could a local farmer be involved so that people can still benefit from farming education by having animals on the land and information on farming and land management? Or yes close the attraction and relocate the animals. What would happen with the land, can it be leased to SRUC or farmer?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As a resident of West Lothian I was not aware of this being council funded, however as a resident I would also be happy to donate to help this continue to run in its present location. Why is this not being looked at becoming a charity, social enterprise etc and being funded in this way, as I'm sure as I do, many other residents within West Lothian enjoy a walk around beecraigs and seeing the animals.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Charge visitors to see the animals then. A nice part of the country with no animals to view.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Can council apply for farming grants doesn't have to include animals	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Keep them open and expand them. You could make revenue by making them payable facilities as well as providing agile learning opportunities for young people. Joint up thinking is what you need here!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It would be worth looking at other opportunities for volunteers and 'Community Pay back' schemes that would still allow this service to remain in place. My family visit frequently and we value this service. The removal of this would be a negative reduction for the very small costs in comparison to the bigger budget.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a huge loss. Beecraigs has always been busy and well visited any time i have been. Why not add a small charge for parking/the animal encounter? Even at £2 per head - people value something they have paid for/contributed to more!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Think this is sad to close as a lot of people cant afford to go to zoos with families and the only service they can afford to go to see such animals. Maybe more of a donation type thing would be more beneficial or a small charge for seeing the animals type system would be better than scrapping it all together. or offer a day as a helper for children in the area/voluntary roles, save on wage costs if get voluntary help.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	On the Beecraigs website it advises that this attraction is free - would it not be possible to charge a small fee to go through the walk way to enable the animals to be kept? It may be difficult to implement this and to monitor this but it gives families a chance to see animals that they may otherwise not be able to view.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Is this the cows and deer? Presume they can't be run as a going concern / farm?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Ofcourse it is operating at a loss given no charge to attend	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I'd love the odd trip to Beecraigs Country Park, but, like many of the beautiful walks and parks within West Lothian there's no public transport to take you there !	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could there be the introduction of a small fee to the park? I don't use it so not sure if logistics but understand this is currently free to use?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The focus should be on rewilding and wild animals, maybe with a shelter for looking out at the area instead? Or a create a focused animal attraction and charge for it.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	can't Falkirk and WL work together o keep Muiravonside or Beecraigs open? Bot are set to close. Can't we work in partnership to keep one open and share budgets?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The farm is under utilised as a visitor attraction. With a little up skilling and a bit of imagination the place could be used more effectively e.g. there will be many kids in West Lothian who will never have experienced, at close hand, farm animals. This despite the region being fairly rural. I think it would help create a better understanding of the countryside, it's animals, the farm equipment and even it's people. ; Having worked in the park in the recent past I know how well liked this particular attraction is especially by the younger kids. I genuinely think that this area could be turned into a more educational facility with very little expense for the good of West Lothian people. Schools or kids groups could be offered an educational experience covering all things countryside.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a disappointment, and perhaps more energy should be utilities to see how the park can make money and operate at a profit	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could you not keep the animals and charge a nominal fee to enter into that area ? I would happily pay a few pound to walk around the deer enclosure etc. It could be on a donation basis so people who could pay would pop in some money ?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As a regular user of Beecraigs Country Park I feel this would be the wrong course. The visitors to the park & visitors to the caravan & camping site visit the animal attraction, indeed for some it's the main reason for visiting. If the farm runs at a loss is there not an opportunity to reverse that situation. Meat sales used to be available. This is a good education facility as well.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could car parking charges to introduced to generate income. Most other similar facilities have a charge. In fact I can't really think of many places outside West Lothian that don't have a parking charge. It's so easy now with the parking apps so reduced need to collect cash. ; Beecraigs has a fantastic view down the Forth. Is there not opportunity to maximise the revenue generating opportunities. The fields west of the visitor centre would make ideal glamping / pod site. Staycations will continue to do well & a decent facility with that view would be an excellent revenue generator.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Beecraigs is a great country park with the animals being a lovely part of a visit there. Could the council introduce charges which would allow the animals to remain there. for example charging for car parking?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Nope. Why not service the attraction better through campaign marketing get people out of their houses and turn it around to profit making. Also helps nhs by making people healthier	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	If the saving is only £95k, then keep it. How could it be made more commercially viable? Eg local sale of venison	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could this not have had some fees asked to generate income rather than a loss??	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	We love visiting there. This would be a shame. What about a nominal charge like they do at Muiravonside?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Can this be run by a charity, or be united with the Muiravonside country park farm?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That would be a shame, can buy your own feed be introduced as other parks do or something to generate some income?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Beebraigs is a natural reserve. Maybe you could look at introducing some paid for services, such as run free dog park which i believe many dog owners would use and be happy to pay for this service. Organise school visits to the park and perhaps request a donation from the parents for such outings. It is commonly used in other EU countries.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a huge asset - reassess and see it as an income generator which it absolutely should be - this is surely a managerial issue.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is so sad this for some people is an absolute essential service maybe even making a small charge for use of this service might be a better option	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Would be sad to see this go ; Any options for community to get involved to keep it running.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That's sad, just charge a small fee for this	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	That would be a shame. I m sure it could be marketed better.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The Animal Attraction has proved to be a great attraction for visitors from near and far in the many years that I have lived locally. Could changes in practice not be considered prior to complete closure???	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I agree with this proposal as there is no point of running a loss making enterprise. Surely some other agency could take it on.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	It needs advertising and promoting not removing. We have lived here 4 years and never knew it was there despite being regular visitors to the muiravonside one.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Advertise this. I literally have never heard of animals at Beebraigs until now.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	surely the animals could 'pay' for themselves. Their grazing is a useful land management tool and so their loss could result in other issues/expense. We used to like buying Beebraigs venison but it's availability was rare and seemed so random - surely they could be 'farmed' and the produce sold to at least allow income to balance against costs? A better path link between the animals and the centre/cafe could also improve the numbers visiting the animals and some families would be happy to pay a small fee to join in some animal based activities eg feeding	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Oh please don't do this! This is such a draw to West Lothian and is a fantastic facility for those families who live here who perhaps cannot travel further afield. Why not look at alternatives? Sponsorship for example.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Why not do something pro-active like ask for sponsorship rather than automatically looking to cut a well-loved and cheap attraction. You could probably save this money by reducing senior management salaries.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Could the council charge people or ask for a donation in order to see the animals?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I think there is also scope to reduce the grass cutting budget for parks across West Lothian and improve biodiversity at the same time, by adopting 'No Mow May' and also designating some areas of the larger parks as wildflower meadows which would only require cutting once or twice a year.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Has there been any thought to requesting a small charge for this attraction? Seems a shame to go straight to closure without apparent consideration.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Manage the country parks as an in house asset not as a burden and encourage more use and improve facilities available	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is sad to hear. Hopefully crowd funding or community initiatives could cover this.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Do you advertise, do you support it, is it easily access I able. NO but let's just get rid of it instead of investing	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Is there no option to make a minimal charge for the animal attraction? Or encourage a commercial operation to run it? It's really popular with families and will be missed and possibly reduce traffic to the park which would impact on the cafe facilities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	I wasn't aware there was animal attractions here, sound like better advertising needs to be in place to inform people whats available	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Why not reduce this to weekends only and ask visitors to pay a small fee of £1-2 each. Under 5s free.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Animal attractions encourage people to visit the country parks and may be the only option to families for a day out as they are free. Perhaps fundraising events to help with costs is a better option.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a great park and instead of closing it why can a private buyer or charity not be considered?; It's under-utilised and could be done with private investment otherwise the land will just go to waste and cost money to maintain safety anyway.; More could be done to generate money at parks, cafes, animal experiences, nature activities, camping charges.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Before making any radical change to the animal attraction or any other facility a proper evaluation should be done. This might apply to a number of facilities managed by N, L&C. Unfortunately, the way things are coded and accounted for does not properly attribute all costs and income. ; ; The animal attraction does appear to be an expensive way to run a farm / animal attraction - the size of the farm would normally be worked by a single family with some assistance by contractors - with not much in the way of engagement with or education of the public cf Sheffield City Council where during Covid and I think continuing there were daily on-line posts from their much smaller "farm". ; ; Having a livestock operation is likely to increase the WLC's CO2 emissions which will mean we have to save more elsewhere or off-set. Some farms such as Mossiel Organic Dairy Fram in Ayrshire is looking to be nett zero within next decade through changes in how they operate / what cattle eat etc ; ; There might be opportunities as follows:-; 1) Along with other aspects of work at Beecraigs, link with Youth Services / Oatridge / West Lothian College to provide month land-based taster courses and / or apprenticeships - there is a dire shortage of entrants to most of the land-based industries but folk need appropriate training and supervised experience.; ; 2) I understand that a management plan is being prepared for the animal attraction. It would be worth working with the likes of James Hutton Institute or SRUC Edinburgh, Edinburgh Uni (Centre for Carbon Management) to transform the farm area into an exemplar - possibly leased to such an organisation. Perhaps even RSPB as a demo farm - they used to have an agricultural advisor for private farms, have many areas of special importance for birds but not so many near large urban populations and are a very well-endowed charity.; ; 3) Opportunities for using WLC's own livestock for seasonally managing rough grassland / wood pasture eg Autumn grazing of Howden Park, management of SSSIs - there are new technologies to keep cattle where they are supposed to be! I think used in Epping Forest etc ; ; Beecraigs Caravan Site; This appears to be a very staff and Property Contractor intensive facility which if properly accounted for is unlikely to wash its face. Most caravan sites of this size are managed as a single-family basis. A great deal of Senior management time is required to keep this operating properly - partly due to	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. The council will consider the various points you have raised in your comment when assessing the option.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	A very sad fact of life We enjoy going and watching the deer Perhaps it needs to be come more commercial ie selling venison and more fish to the public	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	You must be the only people in Scotland that can't make money from cattle, sheep, deer and timber on a good land and with subsidy.; ; Sell it to a real farmer, they'll probably keep the visitor area going for free.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Alternatively just look to charge a few pounds per visit, or seek volunteers to reduce costs??	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This is a shame but so much more could be done with the park. ; Charge for parking to pay for the animals	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Whilst this is sad I wonder if a private firm could take them over	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Not is support. It is important for kids to be able to observe the animals in these environments. Perhaps savings could be made by having more volunteering groups help with the management of the animals	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Volunteers would be able to support this in the same model as those run at Falkirk council to muravonside charging a minimal fee for parking which people are willing to pay for animal attractions. This is an excellent attraction which would be a shame to lose.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Rather than close them these are things social enterprise could take over and run better.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	This would be a sad loss as children learn so much from visits here. Could a small fee be introduced for visitors.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Animal farm in Beecraigs- could this attraction be made to bring in income? (Muiravonside is looking at animal sponsorship/ llama walks etc- could Beecraigs do something similar). Deer/ cattle sheep are a real asset to the park especially for the tourists. Even if the cattle and sheep are rehomed, would it be possible to find an independent business to run the deer farm for project: we use to be able to by venison in the hop- bring those days back.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Negotiate with Muiravonside CP to "save" beecraigs"	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The land behind the partnership centre and opposite it in Hailstones Crescent banjo, has been left to run to weeds. They are also an eyesore, out of sight, out of council mind perhaps. If you are not going to utilise both sites at least keep them tidy.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	think country parks need to be more accessible especially in the summer as not everyone drives or can walk as far as some off them are, so are off limits to some	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	move animals from Beecraigs to a new location or educate people to help raise awareness and make a donation	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Five Sisters Zoo is a great local attraction	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Is this the Owl Centre? This should stay. Whitburn should be proud of having this attraction. Again who really knows it is there. We do NOTHING to sell ourself to the wider community,	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The proposal relates to the closure of the animal attraction in Beecraigs Country Park. The Owl Centre is a private franchise located at Polkemmet Country Park and is not related to the savings proposal.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Wow what a mess	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	No. Stop your council fat cats eating for free at the taxpayers expense, that'll sort it	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council regularly reviews the governance arrangements that are in place in order to ensure that there is good management, effective stewardship of public money, good levels of public engagement and that the desired outcomes for stakeholders are achieved.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Can the animals not just be set free.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. The council cannot just set the animals free as the council has a legal responsibility for the animals welfare.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	NO COUNTRY PARK SERVICES!!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4D Revised Country Parks Service	Presume will be donated to local butchers for onward sale?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The animals will be sold at market or rehomed.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Non essential makes sense (festive lighting) - roads are an important part of a functioning economy in West Lothian, even though it is challenging for the council to see the benefits of wealth generation as this is either capped or goes to central government.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Think we need to accept that the council cannot provide services that are not cost effective. Would agree with this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Understandable in current climate that funding may cease for this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with festive lighting not being funded by council	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No issues with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Whilst festive lighting is attractive it is not necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This should maybe go to each community to purchase and decorate their own community	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	people would forego festive lighting for road repairs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Another unfortunate but I think reasonable cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The Xmas lights were poor, half of them never worked anyway!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	ok but its sad we have got to this stage	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting is pointless due to vandalism	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Cancel the festive lighting, but our roads are in a poor state as it is	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	less repairs and gritting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not needed lights are rubbish anyways	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No issues with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	ok but its sad we have got to this stage	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Seems like a reasonable conclusion.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed. Greater clarification required on this measure and in particular what savings is being proposed by the removal of festive lighting and associated christmas free provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Makes sense especially with energy prices	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Reasonable but joyless.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Understandable but completely awful.... How will Christmas trees, and lights be done locally or is that it totally gone? Surely only you have the insurance to do it..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	understand reasoning but does feel like there is a dampening on any "feel good" factors in the community	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	the boulevard xmas dec look like my aunties rejects.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Not a suitable suggestion.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	So long as the roads are kept safe	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	savings need to go beyond whats proposed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I can see the benefit of community festive lighting, run by the community, but it is likely to exacerbate inequalities in quality of life, which is concerning particularly at this time of cost of living inequalities/crisis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Consideration is currently given on a case by case basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree. Festive lights should be removed to contribute towards climate change targets and mitigate increasing energy costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not a huge loss. Many people now have their own festive lights.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Safety and quality of surface should be priorities ahead of decorative adornments.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	That's good 👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Disappointing that festive lights have to go but they can still be there if the community wishes to support them. Agree it is a nice to have when budgets are tight	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Again it is a shame to loose this. But understand the need the saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Prefer to have local roads prepared for winter then festive lighting to be honest	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It's not the councils job to put up Christmas lights, communities can fundraise if they want this.; The council should also not be putting up bunting for galas either, they raise enough money to pay for this service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree better ways to use money .	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad but can be funded through charity etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Again a shame but the lesser of several evils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as road clearing in winter is done we could live without the festive lighting. Gritting of the roads and pavements in winter is poor as it is at the moment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Christmas lights being fitted on a sunday with overtime payments for staff always seems daft. Good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If it's this or schools, this is an easy choice	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Possible. This can be brought back once budget and economy is better.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Vood	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	In such times of austerity this is fair. Hopefully one day we can celebrate as a community again.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Safety must be a priority and winter maintenance cannot be compromised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is sad, but understandable. ; ; Would be interesting to know how the communities can take this on, if possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	There is no community buzz now. Xmas lights are pointless, I hardly see them ; ; Screw the galaday too, waste of time for those who don't have kids. It's an excuse for older kids and adults for drunken parties and fairground	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed. Festive lighting and gala week bunting provision should be included.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Whilst items such as festive lighting are nice, there are a luxury so prepared to lose them rather than see more potholes in the roads.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not that important in the scheme of things	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not a problem with this suggestion.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I don't mind not having festive lighting provided by the Council, as long as this applies throughout the whole Council area. I would be most unhappy to have no lights in my village, then travel to Livingston and see the place lit up. Local communities should be offered advice on alternatives for storage and erecting their lights if they wish to do so.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	this makes sense. If not removed, the provision of festive lighting should be scaled to an absolute minimum given the need for savings and the cost of utilities currently.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I understand that money needs to be saved across the board. As long as important services are not cancelled, I believe this is the way forward. Cancelling festive lighting is not an essential service that would negatively impact local communities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I feel that festive lighting could potentially be funded by community councils instead so I agree that savings could be made in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Good. Festive lighting has been a waste of money for some time now. However, there are no details of the other savings to make an informed comment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Happy to ditch Christmas lights, but does this mean roads won't be gritted? unclear from this statement	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	rather have the potholes fixed, the sleeping policemen having then painted to identify them, roads cleared of snow and ice (all roads - we live at the top of a hill and they only grit the lower roads and never snow plow it - we have to dig our own roads)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Noted. Will this also include WLC stopping the erection of Christmas Trees within West Lothian?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fair enough	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance will save lives. Festive lighting is not essential	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Priority needs to be safety, although really depressing to lose Christmas lights.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Safety is more important than aesthetics, however this could be disappointing to some.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting not important. People can decorate own homes if they want.; Gritting and snow ploughs have to be used so people can still work etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as the roads are being gritted no one cares about Christmas lights	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting is pretty but not essential. Grit for the road is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree, perhaps a role for community groups like for bonfire night etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not bothered about Xmas lights.. rather the money was spent on gritting / road maintenance	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Scrooge.... but fair enough	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yeah why would we do this when it brings only goodwill	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fine by me	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yes, this should be done	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fair enough	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Definitely not needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fair enough	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree, we don't need festive lighting especially from a cost and environmental point of view.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree - festive lighting is non-statutory and should not be proved by the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	the festive lighting is hideous. No one will miss it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The removal or festive lights will not largely impact others. Go for it..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Again, sad but hopefully we can step up in communities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Shame as this I totally understand why and support the decision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	In current times it is a tough but necessary choice.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	OK; I understood that this was already the case in Linlithgow	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Christmas decorations aren't great already.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad but sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It'll be a very drab winter, but with electricity costs rising this seems like a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Let the shopping centres etc fund this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Totally agree, festive lighting is a complete waste of money and is damaging the environment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	agree re: festive lighting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As for Christmas decorations I personally won't miss them	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting gets put up the day after Halloween and then never removed until February.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree - as long as roads etc remain safe.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as the pavements and roads are kept safe from frost, ice and snow, this is another cut that is an easy choice, albeit sad and full of gloom.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Time to call for an end of this type of activity when so much else is at stake of cost cutting.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting is a waste of money. As are firework displays etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Local communities will probably provide festive lighting but they won't be able to fill potholes. Good proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festival lighting not necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting is largely provided through the community councils and my assumption is that the cost saving refers to the erection and decommissioning cost at the commencement and completion of the season. If that is the case, cost savings suggest that the existing cost of provision is excessive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting not a miss	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	welldone lab/con	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	agree- although festive lighting is beautiful. It is time consuming and will increase energy costs. This is not an essential service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting is a luxury not a necessity which some services are.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	That's unfortunate but we are all struggling to pay our Bill's and if the lights have to go that's understandable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Long overdue. This is a nice to have so make as many savings in this area as possible,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Disappointing but understandable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Disagree cutting will inhibit movement and local economy will suffer adversely	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Clearly, times are tough. Who needs Christmas lighting?! The roads are in an appalling state and poorly maintained already.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Think that's a saving that makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sensible.; Do steet lights need to be on all night?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with festive lighting, but the condition of our road network must be radically improved. Livingston currently looks like Chernobyl. Worn out road markings, potholes and overgrown verges.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I am happy to save money on these festive lights etc. Better the money be spent on safety on routes eg lighting, surface improvment, road gritting etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sensible proposal about festive lighting though I would not be happy about reducing regular road maintenance to minimise pot holes. There are new products on the market to repair and prevent pot holes and I suggest that the Council adopt these.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Focus should be on safety and not festive lighting.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree - I imagine the cost of putting on the Christmas lights will have increased greatly so we need to get rid of this, unless community groups wish to fundraise to keep them running	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I don't feel that I would miss the festive lights and that this is a good place to save money. I would attend specific Christmas markets and venues.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It's really sad that we have to forego Xmas lights. But I understand the council cannot pay for everything. So sadly I agree this is a sensible area to make savings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As above, I would rather I had council staff able to help me all year round that some lights at Christmas. It's a very sad thought at such a difficult time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Dad to say but if it needs to be no Xmas lights on then ok but winter maintenance should never be cut we live in a area that need priority to keep us safe and moving roads	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The Christmas lights are always a highlight and builds a sense of community but when cuts are essential this is inevitable. Road safety is essential and I don't feel I have enough knowledge to comment on this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think more people are concerned about core services than festive lighting.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting is not a priority, agreed. Not sure if this is council responsibility or not but getting rid of traffic lights at certain junctions and going back to the good old-fashioned roundabouts would save money and frustration to motorists.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	OK...festive lighting not a pity...road maintenance and gritting is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Support, ridiculous that Council pays for Xmas lights but considering cuts to bus services and education. Xmas lights are not a core essential priority for Council spend, neither is flower planters I'm afraid, these are nice to have if lots of money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not sure what winter maintenance is currently carried out that is not statutory. Christmas lights are hardly essential.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	the money is desperately needed elsewhere for gritting and road maintenance, it will be a shame not to have xmas lights but gritted and safe roads are vital	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Pavements in communities need to be gritted. Festive lighting whilst appreciated could be removed reluctantly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I'm not too concerned about festival lighting, although some might not agree with me. But I would be concerned if this also means reduced or no services during winter for maintenance.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It is always nice to have festive illumination, but this is something that is a quick win in terms of energy, and reducing staffing costs. But all statutory items should remain.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting as nice as it is is not something that should be seen as a council priority and therefore stopped.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance is controversial however I understand the need to focus on legal requirements and not "extras".	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting should be removed. The council is already struggling with heating and lighting bills so the removal of Xmas lights should be a priority. It also helps us reduce our carbon footprint	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It would be sad to see festive lighting go, but it is not essential. It would be good if council buildings including schools reduced the amount of unnecessary lighting especially when buildings are not in use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance and pavement clearing is far more important than sparkly lights	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with festive lighting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree the money can be better spent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fair enough.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree will also help with climate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Happy with that. I'm sure there are local businesses and organisations which would be very happy to stand in to support the Christmas lighting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If needs be	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Another loss but acceptable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Customer's aren't happy with the winter maintenance service provided at the moment so this won't go down well! Agree that festive lighting should be scrapped.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with this proposal - community groups often have more access to grant funding than WLC.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed. The council should be there to provide the basics, maintenance etc. Provision of festive lighting is a 'nice to have' which could be left to local community councils and businesses to arrange and fund.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Very poor in some areas where it isn't subsidised anyway. Makes no difference if there are none where there used to be about 6 street lights	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No reduction to festive lighting, very difficult times for people and there needs to be some festive spirit, possible contributions from businesses could be explored as brightens up area could be considered.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is a shame but a necessary measure if the choice is between vital services and things like festive lighting. Could the council work with local communities to find community led alternatives? Local residents may be willing to make their own arrangements but would benefit from help to navigate red tape and bureaucracy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	WE can do without festive lighting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	From an energy saving point of view I think reducing Christmas lights is a good idea so would be in favour of this particular idea. Some are old and tired anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think aslong as we still have Christmas trees in the communities then the festive lights attached to lampposts getting rid of them is a good way to save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as it was explained to communities why it was happening, - that festive lighting was being cut in favour of supporting needy parts of the community - I think most people would understand and accept. I would be supportive. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	In present circumstances I support no festive lighting being provided by the council. The thought of road maintenance services being any further reduced sounds very worrying and likely to be counter-productive.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The additional services on top of festive lighting need to be defined to make an informed decision. Certainly, in this day and age the council need not put-up lights. Commercial interests should be able to do that themselves.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Support. Festive lighting should not be a priority.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Happy to lose festive lighting - why should we pay for Christmas lighting when not everybody celebrates Christmas?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as the main roads and paths are cleared and gritted when required and nobodies' safety is at risk then happy with a reduction in services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree - festive lighting should not be provided by the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I do not believe that services such as festive lighting need to be provided by the council and would be in agreement with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Definitely Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The lights displays have been horrible the last few years at least. Always take my kids to see the private ones at five sister zoo and the likes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting should be discontinued not only because of cost but also for reducing unnecessary energy consumption.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	no issues with festive lighting etc. being removed. This may not sit well with a number of residents, however it is an obvious way to make a saving. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	There could be a significant reduction in the amount of, frankly, tacky decorations in some areas, and of the length of time they are on. A few lights, around a community focus point, with its Christmas tree would be enough. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Personally, in the past people would all clear their path outside their homes. If we ll went back to this the council would not be required to clear as many roads. I agree with this as long as main roads and paths to schools and gps are clear.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festival lighting should be a service that is not continued at this time but mothballed and looked at again in the future.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No need for festive lighting in the current climate, so agree that this would be a sensible cut. Please do not cut any services which provide gritting or clearing of roads in winter. I work in a school at the bottom of a hill and the council don't grit the road because it's not classed as a main road, even though lots of staff, pupils and parents, as well as a school bus require to access it. The last few winters, some roads in west lothian have been dangerous to drive but we are still sent emails as employees telling us that we should make every attempt to attend our work.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Cut backs to festive lighting is better then to care of the roads	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Christmas light displays in West Lothian are poor anyway so don't see the point of them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Most important pavements and roads are properly maintained, not fussy about festive lighting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Aw this is very sad but sadly it's inevitable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fully support removing council subsidy for festive lighting. In many parts of Scotland this is paid for by businesses or the local community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree....although I think this should be under two categories.....roads are essential to be maintained....festive lightsbunting etcis not	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Don't know why we bother with Christmas lighting/trees etc so I'd agreed with removal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Support for festive lighting etc. is not a council function.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Again, a real shame but understandable with the potential loss of festive lighting. This can have a really positive impact in the dark winter months and would be a loss, but would also contribute to less light pollution.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as people are safe, I'd rather roads and footpaths were gritted than Christmas lights put up	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If it is between a lit xmas tree or a free meal for a child - then I am all for it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	maintenance of roads are more important than festive lights!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No need for Christmas lights in every village however a tree alone would still be nice. 🐱	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The existing festive lighting is pitiful - it would not be missed by me.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Road gritting seems a bit haphazard with roads often being gritted unnecessarily. The street where I live in East Calder is on a hill and is often impassable during the winter. It's never gritted.; Festive lighting is a waste of money and is often left running way after the festive period.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting I assume you mean Christmas lights ? Cause if you mean anything other than that then you should be finding everything else but Christmas light I mean in the grand scheme of this entire surgery sure cut it but if you mean lights on longer cause winter and stuff then absolutely not	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fair assessment for saving here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Cutting festive lightening? You will only cut it from small towns yet Bathgate/amondvale at livingston will still get them i bet, watch this space, if you cut 1 town then cut them all, only fare that way.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I support this change. Christmas lights should be reserved for places where you can actually shop for Christmas ie livingston. All other areas hardly have any gift shops anymore and don't attract extra visitors.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fine as long as workers are redeployed effectively. No more weekend triple time shifts across council services save a lot of money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad but understandable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	You hang the festive lights in pumpherstons upside down every year so i doubt anyone will miss this or the 6 festive lights you put up on glasgow road, blackburn every year that look like they were made in the 70s	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting will be no great loss.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads should take priority to Christmas lights our roads are in a terrible state would much prefer our roads were maintained	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Stealing another joy of Christmas! As a child seeing the Christmas lights go up was a highlight. It is sad to see that these aren't priorities anymore but the insurgence of 'American' approaches to house decorations in the festive period means it's less of an onus for councils to provide this same joy and I can understand the saving.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Great!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree regarding festive lighting, however winter maintenance reduction you do not specify exactly what this is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Don't pay for Xmas lights (festive lights)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It seems sensible to reduce "addons" such as festive lighting. This is much preferable than reducing children's education	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	sad to see xmas lighting going but understandthe manpower can be better used elsewhere.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Neither agree or disagree with this but if it is this or cuts to education or youth services I would vote for this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Interesting, as long as the difference is indiscriminate then there is no problem.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Don't put up festive/ Christmas lights	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The roads are already covered in potholes or are surface damaged, Glasgow Road was closed for weeks near roundabout, and I walked past daily at different times and never seen anyone working on roads. If jobs were completed on time and efficiently, effectively throughout the years we wouldn't have to save monies by reducing services. Winter maintenance most drivers would want roads to be gritted and maintained as the current service only maintaining main roads stops most people from getting out of the schemes to get to work at the first showing of snow and ice. So, a reduction in services is not agreeable in my opinion.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance and Winter Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This could be a loss for local communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Looks like just have to put your own festive lighting up if that's the case - then again the festive lighting isn't that great in a lot of the towns - but has been in full flow up at Livingston every year!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is very disappointing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	ridiculous, festive lighting is lovely to see	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not needed lights are rubbish anyways	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Poor proposal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment. Suffice to say though that this should be a feature of a progressive and forward looking business and should not be the consequence of a need to save money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	WOW!!!! Reduce this?? Seriously???? Our roads are an utter disgrace - even more so in the winter!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is very disappointing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Poor proposal	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Do not do this. The impact of not doing it is greater than the small amount of money you will save. But I'm sure efficiencies in the service delivery could be made without reducing the service levels.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Additional clarification should be provided on this point. You mention Winter maintenance but then use (as an example) the provision of festive lighting. These two topics do not appear to be directly related. If, by Winter maintenance, you are referring to the gritting of roads and pavements, ensuring that streetlights are working so that women aren't forced to walk home in the dark without adequate lighting, I do not support this measure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Very miserable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	You can't take away Christmas lights from the town's, it brings a bit of cheer to people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting has never been WLC strong point.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Speechless...almost. The service/ standards are not met in an effective and efficient way at the moment and now we will have no Christmas lights. They are for the most part left up all year round and then switched on at the festive period?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I disagree, council should provide lighting. Festive lighting idea...put on 3 hours per night Saturdays and Sundays only. Making a saving but keeping lights on.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Think outside the box.... place a bike near lights.and if folk wish to see Xmas lights then cycle to see. I disagree with lights being deducted altogether. We have lights but not good quality unlike other communities not been equal for many years from village to village which makes me angry. Sad times.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Not a suitable suggestion.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	A drop in the ocean for spending, bah humbug.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Seems like a very small saving for a potentially large issue for members of the public.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Cancelling festive lighting will create negative press for the council and create a bah humbug vibe in the community. Surely this should be a priority even if it's only switched on for an hour a night to save energy. Some more isolated members of the community get great joy from festive lighting so the council should continue to provide it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	West Lothian used to look good - not now; Yet you are proposing not to enhance areas - big loss of income as a result. Has to be a solution to this if everyone has the will	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug to you too! Again, support has to be provided to local community groups and private enterprises to take this over. E.g no red tape! Also if you're going to reduce gritting then it's essential that grit bins are regularly checked and topped up for locals to keep themselves safe.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Grit bins are provided in line with the approved criteria for grit bin allocation.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	let the communities have festive lighting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug indeed. Cut some salaries of a couple of 'high heid yins' who have passed retirement age and Honestly, what next?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Not a suitable suggestion.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Wonderful...we can look forward to hellish road conditions, elderly slipping on untreated paths and no Christmas cheer. Come on guys...just cut your expenses?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Not a suitable suggestion.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug! For such a paltry sum people get a small glimpse of Christmas spirit and festive cheer. This should be kept.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	There is very little by way if grit box and snow patrol as it is, so any cuts, no matter how little will impact communities	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Would be a shame to cut festive lighting. With the current low moral of people personally feel the brightening up of villages would be beneficial	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Statutory and what's needed for safe roads can be totally different. The council knows the local area best rather than use some blanket approach to gritting. Festive lighting as a issue seems rather mean spirited given the overall savings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is already incredibly poor, and therefore makes no sense to cut it further! Cutting festive lights to make savings in a department which is not the best seems pointless.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ahhhhh magic! That one wee bit of festive cheer, little bit of visual warmth and pleasure... Enjoyed by many people who are already destitute and living in poverty. Being able to say to kids, who are already living in conditions akin to the arctic due to spiralling fuel costs... Just being able to say, hey kids! Look at the lovely Christmas lights!..... Gone. Game, aet and match WLC. Thank you. So much.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This seems a small saving for an area that brings the residents of the local areas a lot of joy especially during the cold and dark months. The festive season can be difficult for a lot of people and sometimes something as simple as seeing your hometown decorated and lit up can help low mood or mental health	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad times indeed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No more festive lighting sounds mean especially as it seems to be such a small part of the budget	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Honestly I despair! No Christmas lighting being supplied....bah humbug indeed! You really are making WL the place to be for families by cutting education services/family attractions and now Xmas lights!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	And now you're cancelling Christmas!!! This list must be a joke. Is the grinch running west Lothian Council!?! You want to promote active travel yet don't want to fix the roads. You take away subsidies for public transport and push people onto cars, and then complain when the roads are in a terrible state.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Terrible idea and will affect the community spirit	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad to cancel Christmas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yip lets just cancel Christmas while we are at it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Who would provide these services if not the council? Again tax payers are funding alot of all these provisions we want from the council still need festive lights at Xmas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug community councils do that anyway if your community has a community council that is lacking you are screwed really.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Some roads are shocking. We need some festive cheer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Look at other countries and how they maintain roads etc. we are so far behind it's embarrassing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Scrapping the provision of festive lighting during the Christmas season I think is a major step backwards in the celebration of our Christian heritage and will negatively affect the spiritual wellbeing of our communities in the darkness of winter - as well as reducing - perhaps - an impetus for commercial activity in our shopping centres. Instead of travelling to shopping centres or town centres which are decorated with festive lighting, we will just shop online - and let communities see more decline during the busiest shopping season of the year.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Honestly...bah humbug WLC. To be honest the Christmas lights at Livingston Centre, Almondvale Boulevard must be at least 10 years old, so it's not as if a great deal of money is actually spent in this area. If this proposal does go ahead, just ensure the Civic Centre doesn't get festive lighting either.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	A real pity re the festive lighting. It brings some cheer to people's lives especially in current times when there's sometimes not much to smile about for some poor souls.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No bad	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This doesn't seem a high cost for festive lighting which provides so much joy to so many people. As we go through what looks like being a bleak period I think this could end up costing the Council more in service provision to support mental health issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I disagree with this statement. Residents of West Lothian still need something to look forward to and festive lighting is a bit part of this, especially given current cost of living crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Hard to see where any significant cuts can be found.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Should be a re-think on reducing festive lighting as there is very little to brighten up the community's mood, due to the cost of living so put this one back a couple of years as you may have underestimated the joy this brings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	That's like Christmas is cancelled OMG why not put up lights later and take down earlier) (12 days before and 12 days after just like your meant to do that will dramatically help. Stop renewing lighting in areas if ancient ones are good enough for villages then why not for others. We all pay Council Tax so why not! Or you could do solar lights	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	"This will mean some services, such as festive lighting, will no longer be provided by the council" That's totally a humbug moment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	again - a shame and will lead to 'haves' and 'have nots' across council area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	LEAVE FESTIVE LIGHTING...THINGS ARE DOOM ENOUGH	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No as community spirit and wellbeing is important for the mental health of the community. Removal of the festival lights would be very sad indeed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	So the council are no longer taking anything to do with festive lightings the young generation likes this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This will make for a very bleak time for everyone putting up with the dire times ahead we are all facing. The lights lift community spirit, something that needs to be nurtured right now. Perhaps reducing some would be a better possibility?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This would be very sad and not really save much - is it worth it?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No longer providing festive lights, that will cheer everyone up! Cut everything back and no one will want to live in West Lothian	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	For a saving of only £246,000, is it really necessary to stop providing Christmas lights? Surely it hasn't come to this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Dont agree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ba humbug!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I do not support this measure	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I do not agree.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Now, I'm the grinch, but no Christmas lights? Come on, that's not going to go down well with the masses!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Christmas is cancelled life is cancelled no lights no fun no life alrighty then	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ba humbug. Talk about Scrooge!!!!; No Christmas lights you have taken this too far. This is shocking	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ba humbug	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ba humbug	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads at present are not gritted properly in the Winter so would be concerned in any further impact to the roads	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The festive lights make such a difference to the town centres in the dark evenings and the kids love seeing them up/around.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Have you seen the state of of roads and pavements?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	We are told bus routes will be gritted, however this is not done in all cases. Many newer partnership estates have a high proportion of elderly yet these are not gritted meaning the elderly like my father at 87 is trying to grit roads. I find this totally unacceptable,;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Hardly worth the cut back. Not saving much to put everyone out.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Here's a thought don't do it at all. That'll save you money and then you can have a look at the various streetlights that don't work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter road maintenance and general road maintenance is already an issue- would this make it worse?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Takes the council 3 months to take them down anyway and go up late no point in them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Any changes made to winter provision in terms of grit provision etc are a cause for concern as this is a safety issue for many residents in West Lothian. I would hope there would be a review with businesses in the area to see if funding from local establishments can be pooled to ensure festive lighting can still be provided	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think the council should continue to fund Christmas lighting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Our roads are not good - too many potholes etc. Any reduction in service would not be helpful to users.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Oh dear. The festive lighting is always a lovely to see. To stop it would be very Scrooge.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads in West Lothian are not in a good state of repair now. This needs to be addressed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Paths and roads need to be cleared for older people. Need to keep doing Christmas lights	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Stopping working on roads in the winter would cause more accidents and the hospital would be full	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads aren't cleared properly in the winter anyway	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	You already fall short in providing this service through inefficient allocations	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The roads are a disgrace, the pot holes damaging our vehicles, but we pay more taxes? You should take a cut in your salaries	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I disagree with removal of festive lighting	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	In hard times, hard decisions have to be made and if this is necessary then it should happen before cuts to transport and schools	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The roads are in an appalling state and poorly maintained already.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	festive lighting brings joy to everyone. Don't be a scrooge!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Awful bah humbug proposal!!!! Christmas is a national celebration and I would bet money that the vast majority of people who pay council tax would not want this service removed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	roads are (redacted) more investment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lights provide a little extra cheer at a time when it's dark and cold etc. Don't underestimate it's impact upon people's mental wellbeing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It would be disappointing for West Lothian to be left dark during the Christmas period. In terms of winter maintenance it is important to not isolate vulnerable people in their homes. If you are only meeting basic requirements then I think many people will not leave their homes. This could add costs in other areas as people reach out for support in mental health services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The road system needs to be maintained and there always seems to be potholes so no longer providing Christmas lighting and using money on maintenance I am happy with.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting should continue as this is not safe for commities to try and organise themselves, and is an uplifting thing for residents/visitors to see.; Cannot scrimp on winter maintenance, this will result in severe accidents or worst.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	More money needs spending on this not less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Road maintenance in winter is essential, people cannot afford to lose money if they cannot get to work because of road issues. People will generally help grit their own areas of grit is available.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Dissappointing that festive lighting would be considered for cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	West Lothian is already bleak, just turn off the lights and make it totally miserable - joke	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad, could reduce visitor number s	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	By not providing festive lighting to save a minimal figure is pretty low for any council.; This brings a sese of enjoyment to a christian celebration.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Vast amount of inprovmnt needed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Lack of Christmas lights would be very disappointing . Council tax keeps rising and from reading this it seems we are paying more for a lesser service over time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter road maintenance is important and is poor at the moment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It would be a pity to loose festive lighting, as it cheers people up and fosters community spirit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It would be a shame to lose the festive lighting and the bunting for the gala days. These help to bring the communities together	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fix potholes but would be a shame to lose the Christmas lights.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	That's awful so many people look to the lights to brighten up the winter months. Can it not be sourced out to a private firm?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug. At least put them up in major town hubs including Bathgate, Whitburn, Broxburn, Livingston, Armadale.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Gosh winter maintenance of transport services is an absolute must	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is also a disgrace. Why are you targeting education so much. You are now proposing that children have to get themselves to school on a public bus. Have you any idea how difficult that is. You also propose to reduce the public bus timetable which is going to cause even more problems. Young first years trying to navigate public buses which don't always turn up and can take an hour or so because of the indirect routes. Children are going to be late, miss school and be put off completely from attending. You are putting more and more obstacles in the way.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Maintain festive lighting. It's good for local business and morale.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	WLC festive lights are very limited already. Some larger villages having only 6 lampposts with lights. Comparing to other councils, WLC do not compare.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Providing only what is legally required is pretty poor. Motorists pay a heavy premium to run cars and roads should be well maintained and safe. Winter maintenance has to be comprehensive or people could be seriously hurt.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No christmas lights in the streets? What is actually wrong with you people? Trying to remove every ounce of joy from society!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Getting rid of festive lights will also make our community more depressing and lesser of a community, inevitably leading to an increase in NHS & mental wellbeing expenditure. Removing these will also remove a little piece of the encouragement people have to go outside and visit the shops and restaurants in our villages, resulting in an even more isolated community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is the last thing that needs cut. Our roads are terrible and this will only result in more invoices coming in for damaged cars and accidents. Possibly even fatalities, as I know some roads are so bad that drivers frequently drive on the oncoming lane to avoid the pot holes,;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	just thinking of staff hope they dont lose anything need to think on this first.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug! !!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Nope, Not worth the loss of festive feeling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah Humbug it seems.. is it that much of an expense for a bit of lighting cheer at Xmas? The lights have already been bought and as LED not a high energy footprint. So is the expense on manpower to put them up?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Poor	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The example cited adds to the overall depressing tone of this survey. Cutting out festive lighting makes financial sense but directly affects the community who are secondary in this activity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah Humbug !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	That is a shame, especially Christmas lights	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah Humbug !!! Keep the Christmas Lights up all year round and just let them be switched on when Christmas Approaches. Saves putting them up and down all the time.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Scrooge!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	do not cut this, we need the roads gritted and we need to more of the paths gritted, especially for older people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	; Winter maintenance is nearly non existent. this does need to stay though.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The roads are in quite a state. Savings should be made elsewhere to have the road fully repaired	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not having festive lights really is a shame - it may even have an overall negative impact if people become less happy and need to use other services which will be at a cost	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad... no festive lights.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	But you will continue to have employees shovel some tar from the back of a pick up truck to repair our pot holes for several hours until they are again potholes again	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No.poor show , instead of paying over the odds on a Sunday for you workers to put them up, do it during the week , afternoon ,not much difference in traffic disruption and cost less in wage , can't put a price on having decorations up for Christmas	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Absolute killjoys	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Need to ensure basic road maintenance is still delivered	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	More money needs spent on roads pot holes are bad roads were far better a few years ago	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Against this. The council has a duty to attempt to provide a little bit of care and happiness to towns.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	While I understand savings need to be made it is very sad to see the suggestion to take away the Christmas lights.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Christmas lighting is something that brings communities together and brings some cheer in the long winter months. Depending on the amount of saving the lights brings I think that this is something that should be carefully thought out before any decision to remove it is made	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance is already topical with the residents of West Lothian as can be seen on the various social media platforms. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lights are a lovely sight and bring customers/consumers to local towns - hopefully these consumers will continue to come	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	A sad day for society when we can't afford Christmas lights.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter Maintenance is a huge issue for the public.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Road safety and gritting in winter should be a priority and if accidents increase will cost us more	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Another ridiculous revision. West Lothian going to be the darkest place in the country and Christmas?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The roads need constantly fixed because they are not done correctly the first time. There is many countries over the world that have worse winters than our yet they still cope, why not research what they do and spend a bit of money doing things properly that will, in the future, save lots of money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	More needs to be done to fix roads properly rather than just patching it up with tar as it just all breaks up through time with the volume of traffic that is on the roads now then you would save money for not having to keep fixing them	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting can help maintain good community spirit and keep shoppers in their town centres, Resulting in less travelling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Been threatened many times. I assume the significant cost here is the weekend labour to install & remove the lights. They're attached to the street lights in most cases so shouldn't be a huge cost to run. Needs to be balanced with the lack of 'cheer' & ambience the festive lighting gives. We are a dark & dreich country at that time of year so the lift the lighting gives might have a significant detrimental impact to peoples mood	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads are awful and white lines such as keep clear at Adambrae are not visible on a now really busy roundabout because of the amount of houses you've allowed to be built in murieston	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's website has the functionality to report concerns regarding the condition of roads and members of the public are encouraged to raise any concerns they have. Development is subject to the statutory local plan. In some instances, even if the council refuses planning permission, the Scottish Government can override it.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Disappointing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	no cuts to roads	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as there are still festive lights	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	May cause issues with communities going for a DIY option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Relatively trivial saving on festive lighting, something which brightens places up at a dark time of year.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Is it worth saving only 246k but not putting Christmas Lights up? Scrooge-tastic!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No, winter maintenance should be expanded beyond the statutory minimum or funds allocated to ensure it can be. We had diggers up our street in 2010/11 because the primary school wouldn't have been able to open which could have been prevented if the streets had been cleared when the snow started.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Terrible, lightning is already not great and makes me feel unsafe at night	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad no Xmas spirit but times are tough will there be much anyway.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance may be another issue however, reducing the level of maintenance from current levels may cause additional costs in other areas such as dealing with contact centre enquiries / insurance claims etc.?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The roads are in a hellish state, surely we can still have festive lights...that's a step too far	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads should be a priority during Winter, especially on major routes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is essential, as the roads are currently dangerous in West Lothian. Not only are many of the surfaces unfit for use, but overhanging trees block road signs, junctions, and damage cars.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	We pay heavily for roads and don't get value for money, roads are a disgrace.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Regarding the festive lights - this is a shame. On dark winter nights, some festive lights can make a difference.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The current level of service is so poor anyway. Do you really wish to make it even worse?;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting can be so helpful for people who struggle with finances, mental health etc and provide joy. Surely the council can use some of their budget for this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting is what makes a young person's christmas, do not remove such delights especially in these hard times where this may be the only christmas tree light a young one shall see due to families worrying about the home electric bill.; The word Scrouge comes to mind here!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	That would be a real shame to take away the Christmas lighting etc in communities. Not many communities could afford to take this cost on. It lifts spirits, people are already struggling and may not be in a position to have their own for their children. Where is your Christmas community spirit?!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Would not support less gritting in Fauldhouse. This is a high altitude area and should be gritted in line with this fact. Other areas receive copious gritting when it is less necessary.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Some of the roads around west Lothian are terrible. The amount of pot holes are dangerous to drivers.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads in many parts of West Lothian are in constant need of repair due to weather and the nature of our rural roads. Taking time to repair them properly, and not just a patch up, should be a priority. The road between Dechmont and Linlithgow is a busy route and should be widened and straightened to cater for the traffic on it. I agree that reviewing the efficiency of road repairs should happen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter road maintenance is poor already, unlikely to be legal, reducing it further will mean people cant go to work. Therefore this seems a backwards move. Taking away festive lighting again seems depressing. Reduced services like this makes paying council tax seem more annoying. Foe example, I get so little from Council services this will make living in WLC less attractive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No, you don't provide enough service on this as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	You could cut down on some but it does cheer people up, don't stop it altogether	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads are already bad. How can you revise the standard?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Gritting was an absolute joke last year. Council couldn't even keep to the P1 and P2 routes. All we saw was routes being over gritted and some P2 routes not being done at all.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance service is very poor , specially when there is snow . Need to give more attention for that period	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Please consider the costs and make efficiencies but little things go a long way in terms of community spirit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think the festive lighting is short sighted. If you want the footfall, community feel and people to spend cash in thriving towns then you need to help make them attractive. Else you will end up with ghost towns and lose their revenue	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Please don't make the rural roads dangerous. We all have the right to be able to move around in winter weather. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No festive lighting? Miserable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter road maintenance is very important. If there are more potholes, residents will end up paying more for any damage and of course there's the safety aspect. ; ; This whole consultation feels like you don't actually care about the people of West Lothian. I am so disappointed in WLC.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Ah, more potholes. I'll send you the bill. Feels pretty mean as well cutting down on festive lighting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	How miserable!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Disagree in the current climate why do we pay our council tax ..Road tax ; Tax in general shocking !!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter road treatment is already at a poor level. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Literally taking the light out of life with this proposal. Detrimental to wellbeing in the depth of winter.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Keep what we have it works a short term cost saving will result in additional costs in future years due to cutting back on maintenance and road services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think people will understand reducing things like Christmas lighting. Not sure what the cuts to winter maintenance will look like as i don't feel it is sufficient enough at the moment !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	So far I have only experienced that road maintenance takes way too long and is not delivered everywhere it is required	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think it is important for roads to be safe and well kept but also council streets to be cleared of build up of leaves etc, this is dangerous over the winter and I have noticed this is much worse already over recent winters.; It would be a shame to lose the Christmas lights and gala day bunting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	save festive lighting. Remove Inprint and use the resource for these proposed cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Too many potholes as there is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	fix the potholes .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter services such as gritting and snow ploughing should not be reduced but instead increased. Main bus and emergency routes are prioritised and this makes perfect sense but if people can't get their cars out the street to the main routes then the complaints increase and the trust in the council will decrease.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Gritting is important.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Really worrying,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter roads maintenance is import to keep if possible. Some of Murieston would be cut off if road clearance was not done.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree that certain services (winter gritting) are of more importance than perhaps festive lighting. I also think winter gritting needs to look at pavements and active travel links as well as well as making sure roads are gritted.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No winter maintenance should be reduced or lack of Xmas lights as Xmas is only once a year and most of us pay or council tax for all these provisions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads in the area have increased potholes and danger zones.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not very good...; The roads are a mess already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	You need to look at the state of the roads in West Lothian they are terrible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Removing festive lights at the darkest time of year will impact on people's mental health and severely dampen community spirit.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Shame but cutting costs like this are all relevant in the bigger scheme, better to remove this than money for education	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Safety must not be compromised for West Lothian residents in reducing or changing services such as winter maintenance. Streets need to be gritted to keep people in West Lothian able to go to work, shops, school etc safely. ; Does West Lothian ever look for cross council savings with Falkirk, North Lanarkshire & Midlothian/Edinburgh? There could be opportunities across services, and also deployment & utilisation of staff & contractors/contracted services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If council not providing festive lighting who will, can't have none as times are hard enough for everyone!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance on the roads has been non-existent in many areas for years. The refusal to provide or fill up grit bins on non-main road and residential areas citing danger to health and safety of council workers is laughable. What about the health and safety of the residents who pay council tax? Each year a number of elderly residents are effectively trapped in their homes due to poor winter roads maintenance. Routes to schools and shops should be cleared.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	For safety reasons winter maintenance and gritting cannot be cut back. But you could enlist more community help to do it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Is it such a big deal for festive lights, they have already been bought so it is just LED energy costs but it would be dreich without them. The Council is best placed to do this so you don't get rogue lights being installed that are a safety risk.; You should investigate planting live trees that could be reused every year instead of chopping down and disposing of them afterwards.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If the roads get much worse we won't be using our cars, buses or bikes. The potholes are sooooo bad in places ; It is interesting to see some people using the bike ways but some roads are unsafe for bikes ie A71. Would it be possible for them to use pavement. When on the road they are trying to avoid the potholes and swing out with no thought to the traffic at their back; Also bikes need to have some form of noise to alert pedestrians of their presence	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah humbug ! Can you support communities to do this themselves ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Very sad	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Bah Humbug.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Safety should not be compromised	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It is sad to see this cut and would surely have a negative impact on local economies, eg Christmas shopping events.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	What other services will be reduced/cut? This mentions festive lighting (which is disappointing) but only alludes to other services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	More street lighting.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If paying road tax I'd expect to drive all roads and not play dodge the pothole	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	make the patch up job much better to last	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	How much more can you cut this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Does this mean the wee tractors won't clear the pavements anymore?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	No. The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	no details on what this entails therefore no comment (except festive lighting of course) - quite a lot of this though out the 'survey' not actually being asked any direct questions just comment on statements	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	What's the alternative for festive lighting?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No view on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	-	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No Comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not sure on the festive lighting scheme	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	None.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I blame ***** (redacted)	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	What an absolute joke.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	What festive lighting?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If not provided by the council does this mean it will go out to tender or nothing at all	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	How much worse do you foresee it getting? Does this mean that, if you travelling on the quieter roads that there will be no winter maintenance?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	How much more compensation will be paid to motorists for damage? Is the above figure net of such costs.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	You do not list what the legal requirements are. So not possible to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Very difficult to comment without more detail.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is dull	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Statutory requirements... I hope this actually means the roads of Fauldhouse are gritted.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Again a saving without the review taking place what are you thinking	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance is a variable. Some years, little maintenance is required. Some years (eg 2009 and 2010) saw real pressures on the service.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Does festive lighting cost £246000?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Reducing any sort of winter cheer would be wrong. Cancelling community events such as Christmas lights will have a negative effect on mental health as will the elderly and infirm being unable to get about due to icy conditions. False economy.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Provide more cycle lanes for people to cycle within West Lothian's Roads and encourage active travel more. Edinburgh do this so much better than West Lothian.	4. The council is already doing this.	Through Partnership with Sustrans.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Perhaps a fund for each town could be set up to pay for this?	4. The council is already doing this.	This is already in place through town centre funding.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Better maintenance of our roads would be beneficial to everyone. Have had damage to vehicles and when reported there was an initial response, but then nothing. This is poor customer service and needs to be taken seriously. Customers lose confidence when they are forgotten about.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	hi material costs for road repairs etc must be having an impact but the public will slate the council if roads paths etc are hazardous	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think that it is a small saving whereas the joy it brings to communities is priceless. keep the lights	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Who will provide festive lighting? This is a lovely thing to see at a bleak time of year. A lot of roads aren't treated already during the winter, so this would mean even fewer roads would be treated. Many roads already have pot holes and have had for a long time, with nothing done to repair them.	4. The council is already doing this.	Festive lighting is installed by the Streetlighting team in approved locations on an annual basis. The approved winter plan addresses winter maintenance and road maintenance is carried out within the available resources.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter service should focus on active travel and pedestrian access rather than roads. Festive lights need to stop - again, prioritise essential statutory services over 'nice to have' services. Introduce charges for EV charging and look at reducing street lighting energy costs with intelligent lighting control. Get rid of traffic lights at end of life, prioritise maintenance of roads for active travel and get better value from drain cleaning activity.	4. The council is already doing this.	Winter maintenance is prioritised in line with the approved winter maintenance plan. Festive lighting is installed by the Streetlighting team and there are no plans to cease this at this time. EV policy is being developed. Traffic signals and road maintenance are carried out within available resources.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads need to be prioritised as still in bad conditions from many years of no/little repairs, so due to covid restrictions. Roads need to be safe to use (cars & bikes, etc). Bad drainage, pot holes do not allow this.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	good get another pointless expense tae fuck, we dont need festive lights or trees ever and BAN fireworks for sale or display (its remote littering), while you at it redesign any new grit bin for streets with a lid that keeps water out of the grit as the current ones are shockingly badly designed and made, and why were the new led street light heads not fitted with integrated solar and battery ? ; Q. why arent dog waste bags yellow/orange clinical waste colour as standard ?	4. The council is already doing this.	Grit bins and the new LED streetlighting are installed as standard.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is already a "sensitive " subject - the numbers of calls to CSC increase rapidly when there is "winter" weather and roads need gritting etc as everyone seems to think that their road is a priority. There would need to be a very big educational promotion to ensure that residents/ customers of the area know what level of service to expect and importantly what not to expect.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	More effort and resources need to be put in place to maintaining our roads and highways as their current condition is poor.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The state of the roads definitely needs to be looked at, more proper relaying against temporary patching would to me be more cost effective over the long time.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not enough grit bins in areas. Pensioners and other people cannot get out their doors when it is a bad winter. Grit bin at top of jones green livingston but the people at the top of the scheme think it is for them and them only so people at bottom of scheme cant get any	4. The council is already doing this.	Grit bins are provided in line with the approved criteria for grit bin allocation.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Do a job right once (ie co-ordinate digging up a road and fit two services at once), not digging up twice.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Protect our young people on roads and stop making up excuses.	4. The council is already doing this.	Not a suitable suggestion.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Do a job right once (ie co-ordinate digging up a road and fit two services at once), not digging up twice. Make your staff talk to each other	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Protect our young people on roads and stop making up excuses.	4. The council is already doing this.	Not a suitable suggestion.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Also if you're going to reduce gritting then it's essential that grit bins are regularly checked and topped up for locals to keep themselves safe.	4. The council is already doing this.	Grit bins are provided in line with the approved criteria for grit bin allocation.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	What is covered under 'winter maintenance' and what changes are being considered?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance of active travel routes are essential, with the majority of people still working at home at some level, it is imperative for wellbeing to be able to use walking and cycling routes to be able to fit in some activity into daily life while sitting at home for long hours the rest of the time. I'd be really disappointed if this was impacted, as walking and cycling are some of the easiest, lowest cost and most practical ways of achieving improved wellbeing which will be essential for the winter months ahead. Please can you ensure this service is not impacted as many people may not have highlighted this, but it is crucial and a service that is taken for granted	4. The council is already doing this.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Changing road signs from 30>20 and 60>40 mph and then back again after six months doesn't seem like a good use of funds either. Perhaps better consultation with local communities on schemes like this before the money is wasted would be prudent moving forward.	4. The council is already doing this.	Through approved consultation channels.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Stop doing building work on same road for the millionth time. Plan once, fix once, end of	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The roads in West Lothian are a disgrace how much did you spend on changing all the speed limits to 20MPH and the spaces for people which have not been removed as promised.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	What are statutory legal requirements? How can we really answer this without knowing the full impact. Keeping areas safe and presentable is important to everyone.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	There is no service. Asked and was assured there will be some speed reducing measures in Kirknewton explored - this is the Edinburgh end of the village, cars speed there as it's the end of village but children frequent walk the very narrow path along the road out/in od village- not cleaned of leaves unless we press for action,	4. The council is already doing this.	The annual Accident Investigation and Prevention programme delivers casualty reduction and improves road safety.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Safety on the roads at winter needs to be the priority over everything else. I don't mind losing a few Christmas lights if roads are well gritted and cleared.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Environment, public health and safety are prime here. Ensuring childrens safety and crossing points and a maintaining speed limits is prime overall here.	4. The council is already doing this.	The annual Accident Investigation and Prevention programme delivers casualty reduction and improves road safety.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The council does their best to keep the roads clear in the winter	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Snow clearance needs to adapt to reflect any changes to achool transport arrangements.; it is essential thay Footways and Footpath clearance is not reduced.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council provides a Winter Maintenance Service for footpaths and this service is prioritised on a risk basis. Footpaths with higher footfall are prioritised before those with a lesser footfall.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Push active travel. Reduce car use on the roads. Save money... that simple.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting is not a priority. Perhaps local businesses could get together to help provide this in their locales. Street lighting is the most important, and to be honest the council could cut back many of the trees and bushes to uncover many street lights that are shaded. Since most of the street lights are LEDs, I'm assuming these lights will already be a money saver, but not if they are covered by trees which plunges many footpaths in the county into darkness. There is no point spending a fortune on new LED streetlights, only to have them obscured by overhanging trees and bushes.	4. The council is already doing this.	Street lighting: appropriate lighting is required by law to enhance public safety. The council has an LED replacement programme as this is the most sustainable and energy efficient option that is currently available. Vegetation clearance is carried out within existing budget resources
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fine by me - although concerned about winter maintenance - does this include grit bins and gritters? if so, very concerned as this would be a safety concern.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Does this also mean that the public could be at further risk where road / winter maintenance is affected i.e. during periods of heavy snow/ice?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Who is doing the festive lighting then? Who is updating lights etc and moving then to led to save energy?	4. The council is already doing this.	Street lighting: appropriate lighting is required by law to enhance public safety. The council has an LED replacement programme as this is the most sustainable and energy efficient option that is currently available.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Maintain salt bins for community use. Ensure potholes are filled.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	SWITCH OF LAMPPOSTS DURING THE DAY,	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The Roads especially when heavy rain flood very easily, also in Autumn the leaves block the drains in certain car parks which also leads to flooding.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: drainage improvements are assessed and carried out by the council as necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	When we start cancelling Christmas things are bad I am sure a modest review of snr staff salaries could cover this ..	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If you collected all the road signs left behind you would have thousands £	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	We have a top heavy management team 54 men with nearly 20 manager's and charge hands We still have to provide a footpaths to be cleared this is vital for the elderly and primary schools and high school and the public in general	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	You know what you do, when you fix our roads and pavements do it right the 1st time and with the right materials, I'd never in my life seen plastic kerb stones until I saw them here in West Lothian, and guess what, they were broken ! waste of money !	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I just wouldn't want to see the maintenance of roads fall such that it was a false economy. In the past couple of years there's been quick response to damaged drains which were causing constant flooding eroding the surface of the road. Neglecting that kind of issue would have resulted in a much larger eventual repair bill than responding quickly.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: drainage improvements are assessed and carried out by the council as necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not enough information but until the Council are prepared to 'affect people wages' they will be unable to make sensible changes. Why we pay staff to be on standby without any reference to weather forecasts is a disgraceful use of public money. Also across the board (not just Roads) changes to contracts that affect peoples take home pay need to be made - better this that putting people out of jobs! Focusing on winter maintenance when it is actually needed and going beyond statutory minimum would be better received - pay people for work when it is needed not all winter.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Do away with speed bumps and use tar to fill in pot holes	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: drainage improvements are assessed and carried out by the council as necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It would be more efficient to coordinate road works etc so that there is not a continual string of work on the same stretch of road. ; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Surely there should be an 'updated approach to asset management' whatever that means in all areas?	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	With many people paying council tax is it appropriate that all individual see where their money is being spent and benefit from it.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council publishes details of expenditure as part of the Council Tax information provided to households.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Like I said earlier feels like we need to reset on what the hell we are paying all out taxes on. Someone is spending this on stuff we don't see or feel.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Instead of ripping up the freshly surfaced roads for every single pipe, how about planning ahead and do it all at once? This strategy works in other countries. Instead of closing a road for major patchwork for several weeks, why not resurfacing and save money in the long run?	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: all road works are co-ordinated by the council to minimise disruption to road users and pedestrians as much as possible. However, it should be noted that some repair works by utilities companies are unplanned and may also be urgently required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance should focus on transport and community requirements.;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As a resident, stop trying to upgrade signage, creating cycle paths that little to no one uses.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	How about looking further into the structure of road management services. Council workers for road digs, traffic management, pot holes bad road resurfacing. It would seem there is an over staffed issue here. Many times I have seen and it is widely seen by others. 5 men on the job but only 2 working. This is actually a laughing point by many. West Lothian Council can't staff there schools but can pay street services to sit and watch the show.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	How about looking further into the structure of road management services. Council workers for road digs, traffic management, pot holes bad road resurfacing. It would seem there is an over staffed issue here. Many times I have seen and it is widely seen by others. 5 men on the job but only 2 working. This is actually a laughing point by many. West Lothian Council can't staff there schools but can pay street services to sit and watch the show.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	How about looking further into the structure of road management services. Council workers for road digs, traffic management, pot holes bad road resurfacing. It would seem there is an over staffed issue here. Many times I have seen and it is widely seen by others. 5 men on the job but only 2 working. This is actually a laughing point by many. West Lothian Council can't staff there schools but can pay street services to sit and watch the show.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	1. Roads need to be esp with growing buildings around.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Try investing money in new better surfaces an remove speed bumps that casue damage to cars as there to steep or not full width of road an not 6 inch in height.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	More roads workers actually working instead of sitting in cabs or resting on a shovel would ensure this service is more productive and cost efficient. Roads need to be salted during winter months otherwise how will your council workers get to work.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Why aren't all streets where schools are sited no presently gritted as a matter of course.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Use your common sense! You waste thousands on silly statues on roundabouts why not fix the pot holes! Make pathways safer with regards to lighting and cameras	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Some sort of scheme needs to be implemented to ensure older citizens can still get out of their homes during inclement weather safely even although this is not a statutory legal requirement	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Keep road maintenance	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Increase cleaning /maintenance programme especially in the autumn (paths cleaning.)	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Look at value for money	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Savings could be made by switching off every other streetlight. In my opinion, enough light can be provided by one in two lamps. this would also reduce light pollution.	4. The council is already doing this.	Street lighting: appropriate lighting is required by law to enhance public safety. The council has an LED replacement programme as this is the most sustainable and energy efficient option that is currently available.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Street lighttight is adequate - which it is not.	4. The council is already doing this.	Street lighting: appropriate lighting is required by law to enhance public safety. The council has an LED replacement programme as this is the most sustainable and energy efficient option that is currently available.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Make Sure the roads are open with no potholes.	4. The council is already doing this.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	gritting has to be done better. small streets are not serviced those people living there are paying the council tax too. not enough gritting salt available	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	grit bins are not accessible and not enough. streets need gritted	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has an approved annual Winter Maintenance Policy and plan, which prioritises roads and footpaths.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Time to stop making "improvements" along high streets and at roundabouts that no-one wants.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Think outside the box maybe have solar battery energy to make lights work.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Not a suitable suggestion.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as not unsafe. If potholes are going to be an issue encouraging 4WD vehicles and general war time approach might be best. Or privatisation of roads with local tollbooths.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting wouldn't cost much if energy was stored and reused for lights in winter time. ; Idea only put Christmas lights on in the main streets sat and.sunday nights for 3 hours 7 till 10 ; Control the times. But do not take this away in totality.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Focus all Christmas lighting budget on the centre at Almondvale. Make it something people come to see and will spend money when there. No brainer.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Not a suitable suggestion.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Allow people to put up Neighbourhood Watch signs and stop saying no, because of too much signage.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Not permitted in line with policy.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Allow people to put up Neighbourhood Watch signs and stop saying no, because of too much signage.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Not permitted in line with policy.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	the boulevard xmas dec look like my aunties rejects.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Not permitted in line with policy.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Stop wasting money on speed bumps which are to High an cause damage to people vehicles, stop reducing speed limits unless through government they are passed, better led lighting for communities and provide solar panels for older housing stock.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	reduce the use of sub-contractors and allow trained staff to use the skills and do the work instead - instead of temp repairs that are not cost effective do it right first time?	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As previously stated in Section 1A: ; ; There has already been a reduction in service delivery standards in some areas which is already very noticeable, so the council has to be careful. Gully cleaning for example - the cleaning cycle used to be once a year which very rarely happened, although according to certain people, this function was performing adequately. But now it's taking something like three years complete the cycle, that's if it ever gets completed. ; ; Many of the gullies look like window boxes during the summer months with weeds and shrubs growing out of them. Hence the reason for the floods, water running along the road at half the width of the carriageway and ponding water everywhere. The water just isn't getting to the road gullies. It's nothing to do with climate change. it's purely and simply a lack of drainage maintenance. A reactive approach to supply this service is totally inadequate. ; ; This service needs to be externalised in order to provide the residents of West Lothian the service it deserves. Keeping this function in-house is expensive and inefficient. Councillors need to accept this function has to be externalised for the benefit of everyone.; ; Another basic function which is lacking is road sweeping. This goes hand in hand with the drainage maintenance. The material that doesn't get cleaned from the road ends up in the drainage system causing blockages and this is then more expensive to rectify through excavation and replacement. The effects of water on the road also affects the durability and lessens the life of the road pavement.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Road repairs: drainage improvements are assessed and carried out by the council as necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Transport is in desperate need serious investment , the pay scales being offered to attract qualified staff are grossly inadequate or is there a plan to dismantle our 'in house' service and seek external service providers???	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As long as there is nothing to stop communities doing their own organisation of festive decor / events.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Consideration is currently given on a case by case basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think a christmas tree in a village is all that is required and most Community Groups could make these arrangements	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This could be considered in the future.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If festive lighting is no longer provided by the council, would this mean that it would be self-funded by the community? It would be a very depressing time for those communities not able to fund the festive lighting. This may result in an increase in medical costs for those who need additional mental health support.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Consideration Is currently given on a case by case basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Additional clarification should be provided on this point. If it is merely about decorative issues, such as the lighting, then I have no objection, but individuals or groups should be permitted to provide this lighting if they are so inclined with minimal interference from the local council or prohibitive red tape.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Consideration Is currently given on a case by case basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Stop lighting up monuments.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Consider other attractions, Monuments and buildings where energy savings can be made	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Does this also mean that there will be no requirement to display costly festive display in the various council offices. If the council are stopping outside festive lighting the surely it makes sense to stop the internal festive lighting and decorations especially as the current cost of electricity is sky high	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Reduce festive lighting, not only will this save money, but reduce greenhouse gases. Would suggest perhaps not cut entirely but focused on the most popular main street areas only. Perhaps consider festive decoration that doesn't require power to function in some areas? (Glow in the dark or reflective - provided it doesn't cause a H&S risk - is there any that utilise solar power to use?)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Gritting is important. Is it possible to have (local) companies sponsor a gritter to have their name on it (but in a now traditional gritter naming convention / play on words?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yes should be cut back but should be provided	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Could the lights not be sponsored by local companies as an option? Maybe if half a dozen of them didn't stand around looking at the job things would be done quicker.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Lights do not need to be on all times of the day but open make things feel nicer	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Understandable but would be a real shame. Would support be given to local communities who wanted to fund the festive lighting themselves? (eg handing over the lights!)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Consideration Is currently given on a case by case basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Or don't set up on Saturday/ Sunday overtime shifts!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This seems like an opportunity for partnership working and community councils/town development trusts	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Consideration Is currently given on a case by case basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting to include the boulevard and civic centre tree etc too? Cancelling Christmas or passing the job to communities to do themselves? Will you allow communities to do it themselves?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Consideration Is currently given on a case by case basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It's pretty poor offering already. Perhaps a reduced approach to lights ?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Last 2 years some wasteful schemes were introduced such as the permanent cones to extend walking space during covid - no one needed them, they were introduced on pavements very wide already (but not on very narrow), this is an example of a complete waste of public money	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Scrooge! Hand the lights over to community groups to put up?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Consideration Is currently given on a case by case basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Again, does not seem unreasonable as a lower priority. The local community, especially businesses should pay to make our town as attractive to visitors as possible, so should provide festive lighting and the like.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It saddens me that the one time of the year when residents should have something to look forward too and be reminded of the festive season, the council chooses to suggest switching the Christmas lights off. Why not seek funding within the private sector to sponsor the lights?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Perhaps community empowerment developments could look carefully at potential alternatives to some services.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This is a saving but removing a visible celebration of a time of year that can lift spirits and bring community feeling. Maybe continue with focal xmas tree located in central areas within communities if removal of lighting	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Who will meet the cost of festive lighting or is Christmas now cancelled? Could it not just be reduced so that instead of starting in October it was just in December, that would save money but also leave communities some Christmas spirit in the council area	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I am sure communities can look after these as long as all communities are treated equally!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Council can't afford Christmas lights now? Will this include decorations at the civic centre?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Can understand the removal of the festive lights provision which local communities may take on themselves. Unable to make provide a constructive comment on the rest as there is no detail as to what the changes proposed are and what affect they will have.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think festival lights should be down to local community groups	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Could this just be cut back but Christmas trees still included in villages?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	A reduction in Christmas lighting is understandable, perhaps a Christmas tree in towns would be acceptable.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Then stop doing the silly schemes like the bus path you did last year, the talking bins, the ones was just as good. That's what you call a Waste of money	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Communities can find raise for their own lights. This should defiantly be cut before education.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Should community groups and businesses not get together to provide this?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	However, to deliver this and many other proposals I have seen this far will require a culture and relationship change between the council and its customers. There needs to be improved communication and engagement encouraging people to become active members of there community and then people can assist with winter maintenance themselves and put up their village xmas decorations or local businesses fund them etc. The council is seen to much as being the provider of everything which obviously can continue.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree this could be funded by the local communities, lighting at the centre could be provided by both the designer outlet and centre, if not an option then could there be the return of a Christmas light switch in to raise funds ? This was always something that attar ted a crowd when I was a child growing up in Livingston and is an experience I still remember with fond mementoes today	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Sad again. Is there discussions with communities on how they can use the current assets of the council such as the Christmas lights?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Winter maintenance is a high priority to council. Villages could raise own money to have festive lighting	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting etc should be local community and community council led.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Increase the use of solar power e.g. on all lampposts	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If not provided by the council - would groups be supported to deliver festive lighting? Again, staff would be needed to support groups to take on projects like this.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The installation of Christmas decorations within towns and villages is a discretionary service that the council provides where there are available resources. Other urgent or priority works may be prioritised when necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think the council can save a lot of money by doing road maintenance more effectively. If there is a road with pot holes, only the holes are filled up, causing other holes within a couple of months to start forming at the boundaries. Often you see roads that look like a quilt, with more patches than original tarmac. Even though a single patch is relative cheap, in the end you pay way more than needed. If a road section needs maintenance because of potholes or so, resurface larger sections of the road and you don't need to worry about it for a longer time.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council agrees that planned investment is always better than reactive maintenance, however severely reduced capital funding limits the council's ability to do this. The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to assets, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain assets required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I think this should remain. maybe keep the lighting up all year round and only turn the lighting on every year.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	In order to keep festive lighting would it be possible to ask for a community contribution towards this and have the lights on later nearer Christmas and for a shorter period?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree winter maintenance should focus on statutory (legal) requirements. The festive lighting, I disagree but could local businesses not sponsor some of the festive lighting and do not put the light up till later in December and take down first week of the New Year.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I agree with this proposal.; Local organisations could be encouraged to take on this opportunity.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	There is absolutely no need to cut those services. I work for Roads and can tell you that there are too many managers hiding and presiding over the Roadworkers. From supervisor to Head of service there are 19 Managers overseeing those 50 workers. This is surely unsustainable. That is about 2.5 workers per manager. Really ??... What is going on?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Are all Service Standards currently available and easy to access. I have tried to find Service Standards for road cleansing and road gully cleaning with out much success.....I would like to think that this was not deliberatebut do you really want the public knowing what they should be expecting from their Council!!!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Again disappointing re this however is there any consultation being sought with community groups to see if they could take this on	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Communities could be supported by officers to make funding applications to external bodies for these kinds of things.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	It is a shame to no longer provide festive lighting. Costs could be reduced by having festive lights up for a shorter time eg Dec - Jan. In previous years, they've still been up in April!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Perhaps not wasting money on 20mph signs would mean that money could have filled the gap!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Need more details on this agree with festive light savings that could be voluntary activity	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yes, savings need made. Perhaps local shops or local organisations can pick up the cost of festive lighting. Winter gritting, a difficult one to manage when the rain keeps washing it away.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting should be delegated to community groups and fundraising should be encouraged for this. Lights could be switched on nearer Christmas to reduce costs.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Fine with this. If villages and towns so concerned then a community project to fundraise own decorations could be set up as long as there is no need to get Council permission to put them up of course - as this may be counter productive.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	festive lighting should be maintained but should be more enthaise on asking the local commercial companies to sponser some of it and details should be display that they have sponsered the items. winter toad maintenance should not be cut as it is a vital life line to many people	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting - is this not able to be sponsored by the large companies located in WL?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Get the shops and businesses involved - Christmas cheer encourages shoppers and revellers and is one of the things that would be missed - lasers instead?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	What a way to suck the last joy out of life. Perhaps approach a few local businesses and ask for sponsorship.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Were the changes in speed limits 20 to 30 withing narrow streets really necessary and did you have to remove freshly installed cycle paths? That is so wasteful.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Will you give the existing lighting to the communities?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Hopefully crowd funding in each town could cover some costs to festive lights as a compromise.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If communities want festive lighting, they need to step up, take ownership, and contribute.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	need to consider links to community groups and to private businesses to support this function instead of the council delivering?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Would agree, each community or community council should take on responsibility for its own festive lighting or Galaday bunting etc.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting should be in the hands of the local communities themselves but the council should allow access to the lamp posts free of charge for the power of the services .	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	get sponsorship from local businesses	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If you are cutting festive lighting, please give community councils enough warning to make alternative arrangements.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agree. Christmas lighting should be community funded if desired particularly in this environment if financial cuts to our council.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	If communities want festive lighting or galadays then they should be asked to fund it or go without.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Give communities enough notice to make alternative arrangements or to raise funds to pay for it	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Staff to be replaced by technology is absolutely ridiculous, unemployment is at an all time high and the council think this is appropriate. Also we have a perfectly good roads team within the council yet any big jobs are contracted out and the state of country park roads are atrocious with pot holes so you can try and save money but it will be spent fixing the publics tyres from pot holes.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	This ties with country parks too as it's their road I am talking about. I have put complaints in twice in the past year about polkemmet country park road and how bad it is - it is just as bad again so a further complaint will be submitted. If the road was to be fixed permanently ie dig up and re tar it, it would save money in the long run as there wouldn't be claims for tyres due to pot holes	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Don't patch roads continually.. major resurface on busy roads (not at peak time) take a leaf out of foreign countries... repair at night	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Why are Christmas lights on the trees in Bathgate town centre illuminated all year. It's very pretty but seems like a waste of electricity to do all year long. ; Have you asked local shops if they could help with the costs to help decorate town centres. It feels like Scrooge not to have a Christmas tree & lights at the very minimum in each town/village.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Could a community organisation unitise existing decorations and still provide this festive service?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	From previous council works carried out it is clear that no thought goes into what roadworks are carried out, often it seems that the same road is done several times for no apparent reason. Even once the roads are completed there doesnt seem to be any governance on the work carried out.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Road repairs: Road Maintenance is carried out annually within the available resources and improvements are carried out in partnership with Sustrans. Approved industry wide road materials and infrastructure are used on the public road network as required.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Good! There's no need for the council to be going around all the towns erecting lights and trees. If communities want this they can raise the money themselves. Not everyone celebrates this time and in order to be an inclusive community there needs to be a representation of all its residents.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Agreed, but look to have local action groups who with sponsors could take over a very small number of displays, ie; Xmas and Galas	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Yet you were happy to spend a ridiculous amount of money on the 20mph limit in our towns just to change it back. What a waste of funds!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting could be reduced in certain areas so all areas can still have some.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	West Lothian Council does an excellent job. Please please would you now consider making a tarmacadam footpath linking Clarkson Road Broxburn through Greendykes road. The old path through the wood has been badly damaged by motorbikes and bicycles. The new Aldi store would be more accessible by those without cars.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to assets, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain assets required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Work force has been reduced by 40 percent yet management has remained the same a saving of 120000 pounds plus pool cars pension contributions could be saved if you offer inhasment packages to management. 50 men don't need five supervisors two managers. I am considered about the councils future this idear means nobody loses they job	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Can festive lighting be asked for by the community councils and other 3rd sector key groups and the community if they want them. Can we find out the cost? Surely the community could all chip in a pound or two for them. Balance thos out with the Livingston boulevard lights being upgraded (speak to the centre?) this would look a lot better for tourists visiting.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Festive lighting brings a community feel to certain areas, i think to restrict the length of time it is on would be something to consider - does it really need to be switched on from the start of November - could it instead start at beginning of December and run up to and include Christmas day then be switched off this would make some saving (potentially 50%)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Will all council operational staff using vehicles be made aware that they should not be parking wholly or partially on the pavements outside premises that are working on. Pavements are for people not for council vehicles.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	not easy to report potholes	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	potholes need filled quicker	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Road repairs: the council has a requirement to fill potholes within a prescribed period of time for the safety of road users. Therefore, it is necessary to undertake temporary repairs to ensure the road is safe before undertaking permanent repairs.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Roads are a disgrace	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Given the level of mental health issues this is dissappointing.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Pretty sure you don't spend all of that on festive lighting. Nevertheless, it seems like roads and car transport are taking a very small hit compared to other services. Could this be because LaTory councillors want nice roads to drive their expensive cars on? As (redacted) once said to me, "Surely the old biddies can get the bus to bingo?" No shame.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Not a suitable suggestion.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Kids can watch online how it's done, for example, in China...	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I don't understand the rest of the proposal as it doesn't tell me what the impact will be on safe travel in the winter months.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Jeez , you really are skint , maybe ask Nicola to shut down the pretend embassies and put the referendum money back into the pot	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Turning West Lothian into a Russian style state	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	PMSL!!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Let people sit there snack bar in big lay-by to trade to see if it busy and then let them know of the planning permission	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	2. Water logging arounds road and pathways.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Road repairs: drainage improvements are assessed and carried out by the council as necessary.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	5. Parking space	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	who cuts to roads dept either	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your response.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The cost of current power supply needs to be reduced by only providing essential lighting.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	In order to make safety a priority the council should encourage all businesses to implement a work from home plan wherever possible to reduce travel during severe winter weather. Many people were able to work from home during covid so it would definitely be possible for these people to work from home on 'snow days'. ;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Does the speed camera work between Kirknewton and oak bank? So many accidents. It's would earn money abd save lives.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Need more detail to provide a considered comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	No details to measure saving against.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	I don't fully understand this part	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. ; ; There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	'Focus on statutory requirements'. It is a little unclear what exactly this service covers.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	needs to be recitdced as per my last statement in transport	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Seems reasonable realignment but need more detail.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4E Revised Service Standards and Delivery Models – Roads and Transport	Not enough detail to assess impact of changes proposed. Festive lighting won't be missed - ho ho.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No objection, to the extent that the council is not seeking to dispose of properties (thus eroding its asset base and income generating opportunities) without a plan to replace that income generation as this would be a short sighted approach with long term consequences.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Assuming this relates to underused premises that potentially will be sold as is or as land plots, that makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Ridiculous that council properties are not utilised more fully.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Surely the money spent on new buildings for council workers throughout west lothian has now turned out to be a complete waste of money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has delivered substantial savings through consolidating buildings. Council will continue to utilise the partnership centre model in which there will be shared services and facilities, including those delivered by partners.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Shut underutilised offices for good and sell the land.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	council should reduce the number of assets where possible and sell surplus properties	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree. The council needs to reduce the number of buildings it operates from. Hybrid working makes this entirely achievable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree - the council has to use its assets efficiently otherwise it is a waste of money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	There are many underused council properties that should be sold	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Makes sense if does what it says.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	With the increasing numbers of people working from home this would be a good way to save money - sell/rent council buildings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	This seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Good point.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	You must be able to save more if u rationalise buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	You must be able to save more if u rationalise buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Invest on asset should be maintained.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not to much	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Pleased to see this and wish other Councils took a similar approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Keep the assets maintained as this is a good strategy and any reduction in maintenance will harm over the long term.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Ok!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I suspect in the short term this will increase costs to get some buildings up to an acceptable standard, but agree long term this may assist.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's asset base currently performs well against national performance indicators.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	again, this is a bit vague, but sounds like something that should be considered before touching social care, education budgets etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	It is important that council properties are managed and used as efficiently as possible. Premises need to be fit for purpose and as long as they meet standards to provide an excellent service for customers then changes are very much welcome.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Worthy of ongoing reiew.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Reduce the number of WLC buildings now people can work from home. e.g amalgamate Jim Walker Partnership Centre and St David's house. This will reduce more that reactive maintenance.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Maintenance is important for long term care of assets.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	these cost savings are minimal and can be easily impacted by budgeting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	agree. Consider renting out the properties e.g. for fitness classes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Any developers must pay a fair sum for property, no deals have to be made. And if a property is sold in an area e.g is sold in Linlithgow funding must be invested back in Linlithgow.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a corporate approach to asset management which means receipts received are reinvested in West Lothian overall. It becomes part of the funding of the council's total capital programme, from which every area of West Lothian benefits.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Ok bearing in mind the facilities management question	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Regular planned maintenance to be completed in timescales and not left to become reactive repairs - selling off redundant properties and places that are not cost effective to repair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	If properties are maintained then this is a good thing	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Expect the council to be rationalising buildings with the new flexible working arrangements.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Allowing staff to work from home would mean that certain council offices can be permanently closed, these premises could then be sold to housing developers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	If this does not impact on asset life.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Asset nos. could be reduced?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	shut the majority of buildings. You have empty buildings with home working. Close most of them and adapt a new way of working with staff sharing desks.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	This is a sensible proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I agree with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Would agree with this saving	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree with this measure	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree with this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Suppose some saving has to be made	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Supported	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No issues as long as workplaces remain safe and comfortable for those using them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Excellent if it works properly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sounds like a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sounds better.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	This sounds like a reasonable and good approach to me.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sounds sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I think this is fair enough.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Assets should be there to support service delivery and not there just to be a building filling a gap in a street or area of a town. It should have a clear function and be fully utilised. Therefore properties should be rationalised and maintenance undertaken based on priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Reduce buildings and get better technology for council workers to; Work; From; Home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Seems a very low target.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Buildings would still need to be safe, therefore reactive work may need to be carried out - solar panels would support long term lightening issues within the communities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The Council has the best assets in WL. Stop spending funding on yourself and reduce the costs and increase savings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Council needs to be more proactive in their maintenance to save money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I pay all of my own maintenance and expenses when I earn less than some of the people in the council funded homes. So I agree with reducing this budget but still making sure the service is there for those who actually need it. Perhaps some prioritizing would reshape this expenditure to something everyone can be happy with?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to maintain residential and non-residential properties within its portfolio. As a social landlord tenant rents, combined with grant funding, provide millions of pounds of investment each year in maintenance and capital programme upgrades.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Ok, I support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agreea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Makes sense to be proactive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Take you word for it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Good - something that should happen anyway	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	What are the plans re home working and reducing the number of Council Buildings that will be required as a result of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Looking at best utililusing maintenance.....quite often we see buildings closed or roadworks but no discernable wirk actually being done!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	There seems to me to be a significant scope for the energy improvement of many council owned buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	A small saving in the grand scheme of things	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Old and underused council buildings should be sold, let or demolished and ground sold to the highest bidder	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Alternative uses for buildings are considered, subject to an appropriate business case being established. The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities. The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Completely undeliverable unless the number of properties is significantly reduced (and the saving is not taken elsewhere) this means reducing the number of properties including schools as the current budgets are not sufficient to maintain what we currently have. The lack of investment over the last 5 years has resulted in the condition of the properties deteriorating as the budgets are spread thinner and thinner. Any savings on reactive maintenance creates additional costs as Officers have to spend more time dealing with issues, complaints and consequential damage.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Reduction in inappropriate and superfluous council meetings might offer a smaller need for use of WLC property with a subsequent reduction in the need for service delivery support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	There should be more savings from the buildings being sold agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Yes, and switch all the lights off in Livingston civic centre!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council already motion sensors in the Civic Centre with lights switching off when there is no movement in areas of the building.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Again seems sound; not a lot of detail.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Cannot argue with this but it should be a CI model and not part of any one of review	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Don't see any impact here so assume there won't be any loss and so sounds like a good idea on that basis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	continue this but at a lower level	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	As long as standards to fall	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Yes you need to Maintain building for the future	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Fully support all efforts to rationalise the number of buildings and to manage buildings as efficiently as possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Efficient use and maintenance of council assets should be followed to maximise return of investment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	More buildings should be closed - every member of staff who can work from home should work from home. Greater savings are possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working. Dependent on role undertaken not all staff will be able to work from home on a full time basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	See comment about community centres / school swimming pools, how we can rationalise the number of excess buildings in West Lothian and have multi-purpose, multi-functional buildings, including schools?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council will continue to rationalise offices and utilise the partnership centre model across West Lothian. This includes identifying opportunities for closer working with partners.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sadly it is a fact of budget cuts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Also fair assessment for savings here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sell off redundant / costly to run promises	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	A good programme of repair is vital to maintain properties but this needs to be effective, not sending staff out to do the same job that has previously been completed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Meagre amount	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. Disposal of assets that are no longer required generate a one off receipt but they also create recurring revenue savings in running costs. The council has delivered substantial savings through consolidating buildings. New buildings are also more efficient, delivering savings in day to day costs, particularly energy.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agreed, but close monitoring of and meeting of performance targets must be done.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Seems fair as long as vulnerable clients are looked after.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Services are delivered locally where this is appropriate and delivers best value. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Yep, good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	totally agree - personally I have a council laptop and can use it in any of the buildings I manage. I appreciate the little time I have to work from home.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	This seems sensible, particularly where staff can be supported to work from home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I think that the council manage their property portfolio well and would trust in the CMT to make the right decisions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Share buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to rationalise offices and utilise the partnership centre model across West Lothian. This includes identifying opportunities for closer working with partners.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	disagree that there is less of a need for reactive maintenance work, this is not the way to look at assets long-term, routine maintenance is essential, otherwise just kicking problem into the grass for it to be more severe later in time	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Looks like no repairs to buildings that have been lacking repair for eons. This will cost more in the long run.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The labour-Tory council coalition has some serious questions to answer if this goes ahead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Building will fall into disrepair by doing this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	My concern that this might be false economy and making savings in the short term will ultimately lead to an increased cost in the future.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. The financial position means the focus has to be on core facilities needed for statutory provision.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Reducing maintenance work on council property is a false economy, it will only postpone the costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Many council buildings are in poor condition and requiring more expensive repairs due to long term lack of reactive maintenance. This is poorly thought out	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Seems negligible in the scheme of things.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Disposal of assets that are no longer required generate a one off receipt but they also create recurring revenue savings in running costs. The council has delivered substantial savings through consolidating buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Annual maintenance and general repairs are already difficult to carry out. In buildings where damage is caused through vandalism, this should be referred to parents to highlight issues/costs. It currently stands as things will get repaired and there are not always consequences for actions of younger children, therefore this is repeated.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Maintenance is threadbare already, this policy will cost money in the long term.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	My concern would be that any reactive work, apart from H&S or legal requirements, are not maintained / completed / considered.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No cuts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not a clue	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I don't agree with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Reduction in reactive maintainance of properties is a false economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Bah humbug!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not happy with that	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Most reactive maintenance is outsourced , more expensive a not enough tradesmen/women ,that is not an accurate number	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Proactive rather than reactive is more often than not better.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not convinced that this is possible as there is never enough budget to carry out necessary repairs as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Prevention is better, usually cheaper than repairs later. (cure)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Agreed however financial restrictions makes this difficult to deliver. The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	If this preventative work means less money is required over a period of time then this should be continued.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. The council believes in proactive maintenance however reduced resources make it difficult to deliver this, seeing an increase in reactive maintenance.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The office space I work would appear to have already started to cut costs, the female toilets do not work properly, you flush 1 toilet and the debris doesn't flush away to sewage but into the next toilet. The floors under desks would not appear to be hoovered in the 3 years I have worked here, the Covid cleansing seems to have disappeared completely with no sprays next to printers, shredders etc so as I say how can the environments health and hygiene be reduced further when I would say it doesn't exist? This is a building where we are expected to carry out hygiene standards but we have no council standards, double standards. As an employee I must adhere to procedures to keep myself, clients and team safe but my office space doesn't make me feels safe with hygiene standards.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Any concerns regarding administrative buildings, including maintenance and cleaning, should be raised with Property Services. They can be emailed at: propertymanagement@westlothian.gov.uk .
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Reactive maintenance tends to be required when things break down or reach the end of life. Unless this approach is reduce the need for reactive by replacing with enhanced proactive maintenance then it will fail. Safety related maintenance reactive or other must be completed on assets.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. The council believes in proactive maintenance however reduced resources make it difficult to deliver this, seeing an increase in reactive maintenance.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Maintenance should not be cut down as it is a false saving. If this means you are increasing proactive work this is welcome. It should be in house workers that have a good on going knowledge of the buildings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. Availability of internal staff may mean external contractors may have to be used subject to best value considerations.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not addressing maintenance of buildings is a false economy.; The Lanthorn being a prime example.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Invest a bit more for a better job that would be last better	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	as above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not exactly sure what assets are being supported?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Assets essential to service delivery, which demonstrate best value, will continue to be supported.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	FM jobs being cut.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Staffing structures will be appropriate to reflect remaining facilities following any consolidation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	What does this mean? How are people to comment on such vague descriptions?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Very vague, how can we comment?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	This doesn't say what approach will be used.... Probably more staff cuts!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This measure identified that further savings options will have to be identified. Once officers have developed options, including consideration of feedback from this consultation, a further phase of consultation on additional potential savings options will be undertaken. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Do not live in council property no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Are all new council buildings, including new schools such as East Calder PS necessary?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Most new schools are fully funded by developer contributions to support local development. Other investment is only made where it is deemed essential due to the condition and health and safety aspects of the old building.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	???	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	N/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	This is very depressing	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Need to see the impact of reductions reactive maintenance, does this then increase planned maintenance costs? Is the aim to maintain properties at the same standard or leave to deteriorate to a specific level.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No Comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no views on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Need more info	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Very difficult to comment without more detail	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	There's no mention of what will be cut here?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	How? Not at all clear.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	See 4D above regarding facilities in country parks	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I'm not sure what is meant by this? Stopping the 10yr programme? If so, that may be a false economy? The NHS adopted this approach years ago and while it may have worked short-term, it certainly did not in the long term in my experience.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I don't have a view on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not sure how this works	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	There is nothing here that allows me to comment, it's just a statement and a number. Just make the saving, don't ask the public if you're not describing a change in public service or presenting any pros and cons.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Must increase working from home if possible. May also reduce the need for lower/ middle management as they won't have anything to do!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	If it already has this, what's going to change to generate the saving?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Again a few examples would be great.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	More details would be necessary to be able to give relevant comments.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	How does this save money if you are already doing it?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has delivered substantial savings through consolidating buildings. The scale of the financial challenge means that the council will have to save more as it does not have the capital and revenue resources to maintain the current number of buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	And a further vague proposal. I hope these mean something to someone.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I have no idea what this ten-year programme is so unable to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	As long as it reduces the need for reactive work. Will that be measured?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. Reduced funding will likely mean increased reactive work.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	This sounds like a problem about to take off; Surely you need to maintain your properties	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	undecided	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	More hybrid working is essential	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Actually schedule a rolling programme of works that would be required for appropriate properties. From my experience, works are almost always reactive, becoming more so this year particularly. More careful consideration of any project from the beginning, consider longterm project including all aspects of the project to work in synergy- from compliance (all aspects electrical, gas, asbestos, energy efficiency, fire etc...) Even just compile a rolling programme of works for all aspects	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The only council property which is maintained and managed is the Civic Centre.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council maintains all operational buildings within the parameters of constrained revenue and capital funding.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Better controls and understanding with staff and contracts to 3rd parties, that doesn't always provide value for money.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced. The majority of council services are delivered in-house.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Keep as much work inhouse as possible and eliminate/reduce works being put out to sub contractors.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced. The majority of council services are delivered in-house.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Encourage employment and purchase property	4. The council is already doing this.	The council supports employment in various areas (Economic Development, Anti-Poverty Service, Education, Social Policy etc).
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Being pro-active in maintenance works is a basic necessity when managing buildings, as any homeowner? Fix potential issued before they become real life issues.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Repairing properties when they become old or damaged is essential.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Assets, surely, need to be maintained to remain as assets and not become liabilities.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Partnership buildings bringing services together seems good idea	4. The council is already doing this.	Council will continue to utilise the partnership centre model in which there will be shared services and facilities, including those delivered by partners.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	If something is important, it would need to be fixed as soon as possible	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Should still fix problems	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	If council buildings are not being used then sell them off and use monies elsewhere.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements. Receipts from sale of land can only be invested in assets and cannot be used for revenue service delivery.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	You do not invest in Linlithgow.	4. The council is already doing this.	There is investment in every ward in the council's revenue and capital budgets. Specific funds or grant are subject to specific requirements. The council will explore ways of delivering services and community activities in local areas.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The whole council service needs an independent review and overhaul	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Long term plans are fine as long as you stick to them but at the same time constant review is needed so you don't ignore glaring omissions from creation.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Makes sense to keep buildings up to date. Solar panels, green roofs, recycled water for toilets etc should be taken into account for new properties which hasn't been happening. Would reduce costs for electric for the buildings as well as for the future of charging electric Council vehicles. Initial costs would be more but should give long term savings.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Sustainable Construction Policy helps to ensure new builds and refurbishments are as energy efficient as possible. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Council properties should be well insulated and have solar panels if possible as this would reduce utility bills	4. The council is already doing this.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses. The council has a programme of installing solar panels on council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	We need to look at value for money within some services	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not sure why the council does not put out to tender any works req hired rather than maintaining properties themselves.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council has external facilities management arrangements (where best value has been demonstrated) in a number of operational buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Modernisation of houses is desperately need	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Important that legislative changes are factored for e.g. energy upgrades.	4. The council is already doing this.	The Sustainable Construction Policy helps to ensure new builds and refurbishments are as energy efficient as possible.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Keeping up to date with maintenance to WLC properties is important as we are protecting our assets.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Is this programme accessible to the public. Is there a list of Council owned properties....are they available on line. It is difficult to make comments on proposals with the minuscule amount of information you provide in your statements. Again, another way of avoiding awkward questionsor am I being a little cynical 😊	4. The council is already doing this.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Keep on top of repairs when they occur so the cost doesn't multiply.; Reduce the number of 'janitors' or whatever they are called in one building, eg Strathbrock has 2 on at any one time, why?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is already considering streamlining and efficiencies in building operations. The council believes in proactive maintenance however reduced resources make it difficult to deliver this, seeing an increase in reactive maintenance.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Schools should be prioritised. Falla Hill must be the oldest school building in West Lothian with a gym hall that is significantly smaller than all other schools, inadequate external disabled access and asbestos in the carpets and roof.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council prioritises its constrained revenue and capital budgets in schools. Overall West Lothian is rated as having one of the best school estates in Scotland. The council provides accessible schools, however the nature of some of the older schools means that costs are prohibitive. All new schools meet this requirement. There are accessible schools in every council ward.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	These properties need maintained to be fit for purpose	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Stop building things will flat roofs; Schools neglected for the past 10 years with hardly any maintenance upkept	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. Overall West Lothian is rated as having one of the best school estates in Scotland.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Increase footfall.	4. The council is already doing this.	By reviewing and consolidating buildings, the council will be able to increase footfall in the remaining buildings. Previous efforts to increase footfall across the whole estate has not generated any noticeable increase. The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	fix things right the first time .	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Cut the amount of time you give employees to maintain!!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Have regular maintenance of facilities.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is already doing this within the constraints of reduced capital and revenue funding. The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	need to maintain what we keep	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Honestly you all need to stop being reactive and be proactive it's why there is a school closed right now due to something that could have been changed.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council believes in proactive maintenance however reduced resources make it difficult to deliver this, seeing an increase in reactive maintenance. For high risk items, such as reinforced aerated concrete roofs, the council proactively manages areas of concern. The nature of some items, in particular RAAC roofs, means that deterioration can occur at short notice. This proves the importance of the council's monitoring and surveillance programmes in these areas.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	fixed right first time it could prevent future breaks	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I'm sure if local communities could count the number of empty, or underutilised, properties owned by the Council the potential savings would be well in excess of those offered up by officers. In Linlithgow, the LowPort and the old WLL HQ in the High Street are long running sores, haemorrhaging cash, whilst some unsustainable community purchase model is pursued at a languid pace. I'm convinced more savings could be accumulated and more quickly across West Lothian than this.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council is required to follow a process determined by the Scottish Government in relation to community asset transfer requests. The council has to follow this process by law however it does mean that sometimes it causes delay in relation to surplus properties.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Keep all provision of services in house and not dumped with the highest bidder to make a profit	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sell council property and lease back where relevant. All historic buildings should be handed to HES or National Trust.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Experience in other authorities has shown that this costs more in revenue and increases the budget gap due to the need to rent facilities. Any income raised can only be invested in assets and cannot be used for revenue service delivery. This would result in a bigger revenue gap than outlined in the consultation.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Just knock down old buildings and start again	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	if we dumped the Civic Centre i suspect the maintenance bill would see the benefit.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The creation of the Civic Centre generated substantial savings for the council through the consolidation of inefficient and older buildings into one location.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Need to sell older buildings and build newer ones	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I feel by using your budgets for Council office refurbishments etc is not a viable option when our roads and public grounds areas are already still a bit of a mess.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to assets, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain assets required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise assets.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Please replace the windows in St David House, Bathgate as they are causing the woodwork that surrounds them to fall apart as they are in that bad of a condition. Also by replacing the windows and upgrading the heating system you will make saving on the heating bill.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	It would be helpful if all council assets were included in this programme and those that currently don't have a maintenance schedule are added.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I think this area of work should continue.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	If you don't maintain them they will deteriorate. False saving.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Assets are everything!! These need to be kept a priority.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Assets are everything, I know some councils have sold many of their assets which I believe to have been wrong. Investing in assets should continue, hopeful things will improve and we will remain in a good position.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Assets are what the council is all about without assets they have nothing priority should be assets. Good housing, offices and Shops workshops for businesses to keep Our communities.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council is focused on protecting local services and outcomes. Although assets can help in the delivery of services, it is not the priority, outcomes for local communities is.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	close the swimming pools in schools as these cant be cost effective or run the facilities as a proper business not with excite but with school staff who want the schools to succeed make money rather than keeping excite afloat	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Could the use of more Day Release prisoners to do maintenance work be considered? Real community payback and helps build their CV up for rehabilitation into the community?	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	This has previously been investigated, however it is not possible to use this approach. The work of the council is not assessed as appropriate for this type of work.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	You leave too many empty places and lose out on incone why not offer your services to the wider of ppl who can rely on a genuine tradesman at a cost to non council tenants especially for elderly and vunerable ppl	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The Capital programme is a great model that other councils don't seem to have. However, the 10-year programme does also fix problems and pay for emergency works as there's so little revenue budget left. Reducing the Capital budget further will no doubt result in more infrastructure issues. However, more work could be done in the area between planning and implementing land management measures, in order to increase the effectiveness of WLC land management operations.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Prevention is always better than cure.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Again winchburgh older properties need maintained better.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Parks & Woodland facilities especially the public Visitor Centres and caravan & camping site buildings do not get the high standard of long-term maintenance they require. Despite requests for example, the Beecraigs Visitor Centre sits awaiting a repaint, repair to rotten window frames, etc. and other buildings sit abandoned with no plan to bring them back into use (eg fishing lodge and fish farm site).	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. The financial position means the focus has to be on core facilities needed for statutory provision.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	There is a building which is part of Armadale primary which has lain empty for years. It is beginning to fall down and is a danger to anyone looking to get inside. Why not sell this. It could be redeveloped into houses whilst saving the appearance of the building.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	the council should consider closing its buildings over the festive period if it is to remain open and amalgamate all staff within one building as often these partnership buildings are open and empty.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This is a good idea. Although some council facilities need to remain open for service delivery and cover, opportunities to consolidate cover into fewer buildings over the festive period will be considered.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Further embracing of home working (no minimum number of days in the office) to reduce number of properties further	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working. Operational requirements determine the number of days required for office working.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	How about simply switching off all the lights at night...some buildings are lit up, year round, like christmas trees even when the buildings are closed and external gates are secured.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The council cannot afford to keep all of the buildings it has. This has to happen (not just for savings) but also to stop out of control costs arising from inflation/energy crisis. Individuals and families have to make tough decisions, so does the council. We need to close some of our expensive swimming pools. The council has far too many and they are huge energy consumers.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Use the council buildings for other council activities to utilise the buildings, private events on weekends in communal area or parking. Sunday markets, community events for more fund raising.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	More savings could possibly be made by reducing the amount of lights and heating left on in schools and council buildings overnight and at weekends.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	More people are going to need council property with the current climate	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Ordinary tax payers can't invest in their assets for paying exorbitant tax rates	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	West Lothian Council's council tax is currently less than the Scottish average. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Noted. There are many repairs that should be re-charged to the tenant and they are not. WLC could perhaps take a more firm line to recover these malicious damages and further savings could be made. WLC tenants are also refusing Planned Maintenance work which seems to be accepted by WLC. Can WLC not insist the works are done in order to keep the property in line with Scottish Housing Quality Standard?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The council should be doing more for there tenents I can't remember the last time we had the kitchens done up by the council	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	You have got to be joking. Housing stock is in ruin in west lothian. Villages in fauldhouse for example...render hanging off. Poor windows and doors. Damp housing due to appalling gutters.; You cannot seriously consider cutting back here.from my experience of friends who live in council housing ,their homes need dragging into this century. Disgraceful	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Those who are capable should be met with options to do maintenance for themselves however those with extra support needs, at risk persons, those with children, extreme poverty, personal independence payment benefits, mental health or physical incapacity should have the most support in ensuring their property is maintained. They should also be held responsible for ensuring the upkeep so support in terms of an education provision to those most in need and incapable of looking after themselves or their homes should be priority in this instance.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Baffled to read this... I know of buildings that haven't been touched in decades; and when there is any 'sign of life' more harm than good occurs... you also have too many contacts using dodgy contractors charging for work and equipment hire that isn't done! - Backhanders, cronyism, WLC is 'shady as'!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Most tenants will maintain their properties. I would move towards a reactive program, but ensure careless tenants pay a penalty.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Sounds good in theory. As a private home owner, I would not change my kitchen, bathroom, doors windows etc every 10 years???	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not sure what is meant by this. Is it housing stock? If so, some council properties are not properly maintained anyway and those who can afford to are paying for their own upgrades. Work that is carried out is to such a poor standard by the "tradesmen" that the work needs rectified later so efficiencies should include either decent workmen or inspections being carried out	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Does this include the number of council housing lying empty for months on end whilst tenants are living in unsuitable properties or in hotels	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	the reactive support doesnt work for pepole in really old houses of disrepair. the housing application process , engagement and support for people who needs this is none existant.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Stop wasting money building factories never used.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	West Lothian Council has not build any new factories. New factories across the county are privately owned and constructed.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	no idea what this means/is referring to	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Again. I am unsure what this means. Finding a lot of the questions difficult to answer due to how they are worded and finding my ability to properly add my opinions to this questionnaire hampered as a result.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	So; Maintenance is an inevitable consequence of Capital spending.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Need more detail to provide a considered comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No idea what you mean here	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Too vague to comment on.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No details. Hard to judge.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	No comment as don't understand detail	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I do not see where savings are coming from with this proposal.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	I don't know what this actually means in practice so I can't comment	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Gobbledegook! Word salad. What does any of that mean?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not enough detail	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	dont really know what this mean	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	Not sure what this actually means!!!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	What does this actually equate to? Very vague.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	This proposal is opaque, Do you mean the plan is to actively not maintain assets?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4F Efficiencies from improved use and management of council properties	It is unclear how this differs from the current arrangement	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Given the further pressures on revenue and capital budgets, the council will have to deliver further efficiencies in property assets as the council cannot afford to keep all the buildings it currently has.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Hard to comment on when there are no details on how energy consumption is being reduced. There are a lot of old buildings where lights are left on as they are not on timers or sockets plugged in that are not required. Some of these may be combated by re-educating and enforcing the message however as there are no automatic cut-offs it is difficult; ; Meetings between offices should now be electronic to save mileage, time and pollution. The pandemic meant that meetings were scheduled online and to go back to meetings face to face between different buildings would be a step back	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No details as to how, work from home can reduce building needs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good. But needs investment, not free.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. All approved projects have estimated payback periods substantially shorter than the lifetime of the equipment and produce revenue savings for the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Worth investing in solar for appropriate properties? Or installation of wind turbine(s) at property to increase energy efficiency / offset energy costs? Investment in lagging for boiler rooms / heating pipework or for the property as a whole (ie. insulation above suspended ceilings, cavity walls etc...?)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. All approved projects have estimated payback periods substantially shorter than the lifetime of the equipment and produce revenue savings for the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Sounds good but no detail so who knows.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This is a good shout, surly staff working at home is helping you with this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	saving on energy usage need to be planned over a long term basis and ensure no higher costs in earlier years that just compound the issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Add solar power to the maximum possible in all council property.; Enforce strict limits on heating temperature.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	All new builds and council buildings should have solar panels and sustainable power.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Great job 👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This should be a big focus, and enabling people to work from home will have a big impact.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	As to be expected during an energy crisis!!!; ; This isn't a succes, it's a bare minimum for all people on Scotland because of the lack of forward planning in renewables. This should have been done 20 years ago!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Happy with renewable energy consumption	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Lights off in and around council buildings and schools when noone is using them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good news	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Okay. No way to judge claim, though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Yes - this sounds good!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	We all need to reduce energy costs as long as service users suffer.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This is imperative.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good idea, and necessary for more than just financial reasons	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Use more wind water solar in all council buuldings yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I would fully support this measure and encourage the council to go further with its energy efficiency ambitions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This is a good plan.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Need saving more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Yes, please	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Not sure if this is the best section to say I have been in a number of council buildings where the heating can not be changed in summer months the heat from the heating system is so high . Staff saying they have to open windows as they can not turn heating down. Does not make any sense why should we be paying to have heating on in the summer ? Also many schools council buildings seem to have lights on in corridors when buildings are closed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Insulation of buildings is generally poor in uk. Statistics show this as the best ecological investment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy and insulation solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I approve of energy efficiency by getting blow poer units installed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Surely in this time of energy price rises, a spend to save initiative to install solar panels on roofs on schools and other council buildings would be hugely successful and beneficial.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Consideration of improved use of council buildings through continuation of homeworking and hybrid working models could add to energy savings by rationalising building use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Sounds excellent. I would suggest turning down the heating levels in schools to help as well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Positive. No argument about the potential benefits arising from this proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I feel extremely passionate about saving energy and we all have a responsibility to ensure that this happens. It will mean that we will save money in the long run and that measures to increase efficiency is the best way forward, for businesses and people's homes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Yes - renewable energy projects are essential for jobs, sustainability and reducing energy crises like we're in now. Invest in this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	would be good to consider incorporating solar energy panels or other renewable energy resources in all new (and exisiting) council building, particularly schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Sort out school heating, open windows and super hot classrooms need work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Further savings could perhaps be made by reducing the excessive lighting at some buildings both inside and out during the night. Deans Community High School for example has lights blazing all night and many corridor lights stay on all day and night.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This sounds fantastic good but will it really be energy efficient! No real details as to what products will be used	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	If this constitutes genuine investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy, then I would support this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Turning off heating in primary schools could help finances. Our heating is often on in summer. Waste of money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I would have thought that significantly larger savings could be achieved here. Please revisit	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an energy reduction work plan and is committed to exploring opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions, improved energy efficiency of buildings and equipment and changing the behaviour of users in council buildings. The council has already delivered considerable savings through energy efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	More can and should be done in this area,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Reducing carbon emissions 100%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Easy choice again and makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Well, fine. But whats the point of doing that when your other proposed measures are increasing carbon emissions, such as removing support for public and school transport?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Other proposed measures in relation to transport would have a positive impact on carbon emissions. Currently under utilised bus services see large emissions for small number of passengers.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	agree- should be priority in line with sustainability and climate change agendas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Net zero should be the focus of us all where possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Essential.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Anything to reduce carbon is important.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This is a good cost saving and green policy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree with this but £245,000 does not sound like we are greatly reducing energy consumption if the council is meant to be working towards net zero carbon emissions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has an energy reduction work plan and is committed to exploring opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions, improved energy efficiency of buildings and equipment and changing the behaviour of users in council buildings. The council has already delivered considerable savings through energy efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Reducing carbon emissions will have a positive impact on our local environment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	More electric charging sockets at council buildings and turn off lights at night in council buildings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Everyone should be reducing their energy & this would fir with rationalising buildings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Again, allowing staff to work from home gives them a better carbon footprint, and will reduce the cost of energy to the council. I would like to see more focus or solar energy, not seeing enough buildings/homes with solar panels.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Would be a good thing. People should have solar panels. Have wind turbines in gardens.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will continue to reduce energy consumption and related costs through new energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Absolutely goes without saying!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This is good for the environment and the saving is an added bonus	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Strongly support as also results in carbon reduction	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Would have thought this was a given.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Excellent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Could be a good thing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Great news.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	agreedc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Should be doing this as part of business as usual. However, I think this should be more ambitious. Does this include energy generation on a large scale, including community generated/owned power etc?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Go for it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Why not we are all adopting this at home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Investing in greener energy and introducing to automatically shut down lights, any electronic non emergency equipment etc tht sits on standby will save mney in the long run.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Great and much more off this i.e. use solar and air source heating etc top get off the grid and save masses in utility bills	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Need to reduce more and make greater savings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Great idea - get solar panels on every council building and council house. Get wind turbines on the Civic Centre and put some signs up in the lifts asking people to use calories not electricity to get to the next floor.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. We undertake extensive behaviour change programmes including focusing on the energy efficient operation of sites in our highest consuming buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	As part of refurbishment, consider putting in place solar panels and local wind turbines as is seen in e.g. Germany. This will reduce running costs and can be phased in while meeting Climate targets.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	ok, I support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Sounds good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Makes sense	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Excellent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I agree with your proposals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Yes - more of this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	If it is essential	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good Idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	OK	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Supportive of this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Again should happen anyway/ go for it!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Excellent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Excellent!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I am in agreement with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Perfect	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Sounds made up but good.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Renewable energy projects should be developed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Seems like a positive way to reduce funds over time and is also better for the environment. Positive project, electric buses for school? How will this save money (short term). More efficient heating/lights/insulation	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I think this does need to be done, I also think you should adopt a method that would recycle food and garden waste into fertiliser and gases that could then be resold to farming/gardening and gases to be used as an renewable energy source (like biogen, Edinburgh)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Have fewer council buildings but invest in energy efficient measures such as solar panels and better insulation to reduce building running costs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Helping the environment is important and if we can do that and save money - that is great	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	solar panels	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Wind turbines,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I fully support this but am not convinced that, done properly, it can save money in the short term - it needs investment to save.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Again should be being done regularly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Hopefully be able to be rolled out across more properties and landholdings	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I would strongly suspect you can save a great deal more through a cohesive and vigorous approach to this. It is to be applauded.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. The council has an energy reduction work plan and is committed to exploring opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions, improved energy efficiency of buildings and equipment and changing the behaviour of users in council buildings. The council has already delivered considerable savings through energy efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Wind turbines.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This should be an imperative due to the climate crisis	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Any successes should be shared	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. The size of the anticipated budget gap, and with a large proportion of it relating to energy costs, means savings in this area help to offset increased energy costs.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Would be interesting to see what these are	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	It would be good to know what these are.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	It's a big initial cost to move to more energy efficient methods but there isn't an option really & the savings will come	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	We seriously need to look at savings, I was in a Council building and the heat was outrageous! Come on	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree this is important for current costs but especially for the environment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Great. Do more. Aim for net zero emissions by a target date. Soon.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Here too there is the want of detail. 'Energy efficiency and renewable energy projects'. I am reminded that trying to get the basics right must come first; if it can all be achieved to provide efficient clean energy all good and well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	All initiatives for reducing energy consumption and use of renewable should be encouraged.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	More solar panels on south facing roofs, including for heating the swimming pools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good for the environment and the budget.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This should always be the case. We MUST reduce carbon emissions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Renewable energy needs to be utilised more!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This sounds effective and appropriate with climate change action.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Considering the environment is vital and money should not be diverted from finding ways to become more energy efficient	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Sound good, but how?!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	If services are maintained on a more efficient way, then fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree. Many council partnership buildings far too hot. Wasteful	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Makes sense. Minimizing energy consumption but also looking at both energy generation and energy storage. Looking at biomethane at water processing plants , wind&solar&battery storage on all public buildings. Mandate large open car parks should have % solar shelters. All of this micro generation capacity soon adds up if it's working together. Appreciate energy is a UK level policy but someone or a collective needs to have the governments right now that Scotland where we have significant renewable capacity is paying ridiculously high prices for energy when we only have 1 gas fired power station and 1 nuclear powerstations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. The council previously considered solar shelters but income generation levels meant it was not a viable option given the investment level required to install them.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The council has declared a climate change emergency and it is vital that this is backed by actual action, even where this may be challenging.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Strongly support measures that will reduce energy and fuel consumption. It would be great to see solar panels on community centres and offices.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Could be great. But at the same time you're proposing to cut school transport and revise public transport so surely that would mean more carbon emissions?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The current operation of public transport results in high carbon costs per passenger with many buses running with very few passengers. It is hoped that changes in delivery of transport services will improve carbon emissions.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	We also need assistance to create local Net Zero plans for each locality to give us focus and steer, as well as hope and a template for a sustainable future for our children.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. There is an action plan to ensure the council makes progress in reducing carbon emissions and there has been good progress to date, with performance targets being exceeded.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This should be a core consideration in building management and new build commissioning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Hopefully will help meet climate change targets and ensure sustainability for the future	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Reducing carbon emissions should continue	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This should be a priority	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	WLC signed the net zero pledge, I would expect it to be doing a lot more, including the provision of electric charging points.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Turn the heating down in ALL the offices ALL times of year.... Employees wear jumpers if they're cold!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. We undertake extensive behaviour change programmes including focusing on the energy efficient operation of sites in our highest consuming buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Installing renewable energy on existing buildings to reduce costs such as solar	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	agreed, private finance could be sued to fund Solar, ASP and EV charging points	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. Private financing still results in a cost of borrowing for the council that must be funded unless external grant funding is secured.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Should be doing this. Saving though seems hypothetical.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Solar and wind turbine on estates. Shared local power generation.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. The council has a programme of installing solar panels on council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Fully support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	If the council invested the proposed saving in solar energy farms (or other renewable energy harvesting/production) on the roofs of schools and council buildings, in council parking, we would all see much more benefits both financial and in lower carbon emissions	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I mean with the costs how could you not but how do you plan on doing this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Also fair assessment for savings here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	2. More focus on green energy	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	These need to be affordable and sustainable or they will fail	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. All approved projects have estimated payback periods substantially shorter than the lifetime of the equipment and produce revenue savings for the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	All new initiatives for improving energy consumption should be welcomed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Cutting the office spaces, increasing technology and effective working will all cut the need to use energy.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Welcome if insulation and other energy saving measures are deployed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	How much is it costing to achieve this? Curb emissions at the top then we can continue this process down the line	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Renewal energy is strongly recommended at cheaper rates	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Renewable is a great idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This is down to individuals doing their bit.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Everyone and every organisation has a contribution to make to reducing carbon emissions. The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Do more of this!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Definitely Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good continue to reduce emissions.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Could office lights be reduced? In the civic can the motion lights be turned off and changed to pod or small sections on switch? I often find them to bright and often walk past an empty pod and they turn on unnecessarily.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Individuals can request changes to lighting arrangements at their pods in the Civic Centre (e.g. removal of some strips). Please ask Property Services for assistance. The Civic Centre has light sensors which switch off after a short period of inactivity. It is not possible to relocate the sensors.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Does this make all council vehicles idle proof? Then staff would not be able to sit in them with the engines running, while staff use their mobile phones (whether work related or not) have a crafty fag with the vehicle's windows open, have the heaters on for the ir feet awhile ventilating the rest of the vehicles to let the stale smoke-filled air out the cabs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Smoking in council vans is prohibited. Where this is observed, please contact the council through the Contact Centre.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Street lighting more responsive to natural lighting - not needed - not on.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Areas of woodland and peatland that are already being used as carbon offsets should be robustly protected. Reducing carbon emissions needs to go hand in hand with enhancing biodiversity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Biodiversity: the council is developing a Local Biodiversity Action Plan that is aimed at improving biodiversity and natural habitats and introducing long term and sustainable projects that will benefit from natural assets. It will also include options for engaging with schools.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Cancelling bus routes, forcing people (who have them) to use cars or multiple buses where one currently runs dies not uphold this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Waste of money	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Could do more	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I don't think we really have choice with this, we must continue to reduce emissions.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Strongly disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Climate and carbon footprint along with the green energy just money making schemes and lot of nonsense do away with it all	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	In what way will these be reduced, street lights are not great for the elderly if our when dark	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Climate change and emerging technology to help reduce emissions costs money. I struggle to see how any carbon reduction strategy will save money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	All approved projects have estimated payback periods substantially shorter than the lifetime of the equipment and produce revenue savings for the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Having staff work from home should help support this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Unclear what this involves	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	£245k does not seem like a great deal in this area. How much does the council pay for gas and electricity at present? What % of that is £245k	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has an energy reduction work plan and is committed to exploring opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions, improved energy efficiency of buildings and equipment and changing the behaviour of users in council buildings. The council has already delivered considerable savings through energy efficiency.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Does this mean turning the heating down?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	It will include all measures to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions. The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. In some circumstances it will be turning heating down where it is assessed to be excessive, in other circumstances it will be the introduction of renewable technology.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Buses ?? Read your previous sections	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	What projects?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No opinion	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	well enough said about that	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	See previous comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No Comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Noted	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	A/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I don't know enough about this to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No Comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I don't know enough to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Need to know more to comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	As above	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment to add as I am not convinced that the investment in renewable energy projects are benefiting / we are seeing the savings based evidence for the investment yet.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	All approved projects have estimated payback periods substantially shorter than the lifetime of the equipment and produce revenue savings for the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Unknown	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I do not have an adequate knowledge of these functional areas to comment on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Don't worry about this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	no views on this.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	NC	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	no comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	n/a	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Very difficult to comment without more detail	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	See above in relation to Council Properties.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Before you start to pat yourself on the back too much, how have you measured this and what are the new measures? I am aware that you had reduced your fleet of pool vehicles and the amount of miles that officers are allowed to do.... Maybe that's why it takes so long for pothole and flooding issues to be identified and dealt with....is it because they are not allowed out, which in turn saves on fuel costs. How many of the new school constructed over the passed 5 years have solar panels and of the ones currently under construction.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	There is nothing here that allows me to comment, it's just a statement and a number. Just make the saving, don't ask the public if you're not describing a change in public service or presenting any pros and cons. This is simple a no brainer saving to make!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	More working from home!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council will continue to review processes, procedures and methods of service delivery to support improvement and efficiency in services whilst delivering on commitments.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Noted that this is an aim. How realistic is the achievement of the reduction?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has made good progress in this area and is currently performing ahead of targets in carbon emission reductions. Performance is measured against targets in the Climate Change Strategy.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good luck trying to save money with energy prices increasing the way they are. Expect this won't happen.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. Budget savings in this area are particularly important given the increase in energy bills.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Like what? Not enough information to comment on.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Not saving that much really. If the Chancellors Autumn Statement comes to fruition - all the electric vehicles you have invested in, will be taxed in the same way as non-electric vehicles. Is this false economy?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has an energy reduction work plan and is committed to exploring opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions, improved energy efficiency of buildings and equipment and changing the behaviour of users in council buildings. The council has already delivered considerable savings through energy efficiency and will continue to do this to offset the substantial cost increases in energy.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Is this a question? Not sure what you're looking for here.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	As a resident I do not understand what this will mean to the services I receive due to the vague and broad terms used in this consultation document.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The most carbon emissions in West Lothian as a whole are currently produced by transport, therefore this does need to be the focus for reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency, in order to substantially reduce carbon emissions. This requires investment in active travel infrastructure and education for journeys below 2 miles, together with strategic public transport routes for longer journeys and/or for those with reduced mobility.	4. The council is already doing this.	Transportation including active travel, infrastructure and public transport are themes included within the council's Climate Change Strategy.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Use of renewables and energy efficiency is a prudent investment that should return savings in the long term.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	More access to pool cars would be helpful. Staff don't want to have to use their own cars but have too at present to do their job.	4. The council is already doing this.	Council constantly review fleet requirements
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	With the tree planting and wild grass meadows around these must be making a great impact on the carbon footprint.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	What will council do with old batteries?	4. The council is already doing this.	CRC sites have a box for batteries and these are disposed of via a contractor licenced to take them
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Again, any savings made here should be reinvested in the same area. This should not be an area we are looking to reduce costs.	4. The council is already doing this.	Energy costs have become so high that these savings are being used to partially offset a substantial and unprecedented increase in energy costs.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Bring into use electric pool cars and central booking system. Re-introduce training for staff with no previous use of electric vehicles. Training for new staff in terms of pool car usage should really be a mandatory element of an induction process joining the council, at present no training and no cars available.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is investigating options to utilise pool cars better and prioritise use to support key service delivery. Full and effective use of the pool cars will be delivered to ensure value for money.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	There is a large amount of energy wasted in public buildings such as schools. The heating does not need to be on as much as it is. Also, lights should be on sensors so that they go off when a room is empty.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	What success of previous energy efficiency initiatives? We should be shouting about these!; Are you on track against your plan?	4. The council is already doing this.	A report is presented annually to the Council Executive on progress in delivering the Climate Change Strategy. Quarterly reports are presented to Environment PDSP on progress against individual performance indicators. The council is currently ahead of interim targets.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	why are schools outside areas lit up like Christmas trees every night. (wintertime)	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	all lights in buildings should be on Sensores,;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Solar panels on buildings ,are there any,;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I'm sure there's a lot of room for reduced waste in the council	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This is an area where the council must move with the times and any savings could certainly be better used.	4. The council is already doing this.	Savings in this area will be used to offset the substantial increased cost of energy.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Can the council invest in renewable energy projects to earn income to help for future budgets?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	As part of refurbishment, consider putting in place solar panels and local wind turbines as is seen in e.g. Germany. This will reduce running costs and can be phased in while meeting Climate targets.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	More renewables are needed throughout West Lothian.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Cut energy bills of council services,including street lighting etc and reduce the cost of non essential or nice to have services	4. The council is already doing this.	Street lighting: appropriate lighting is required by law to enhance public safety. The council has an LED replacement programme as this is the most sustainable and energy efficient option that is currently available.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Can they use more things like solar/wind?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Plant more trees, don't see many electric vehicles either, just smelly old tractors & lorries especially at Beecraigs park.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Climate change, carbon emissions, sustainability - none of these are cheap and all of them come with more procedures and delivery requirements from Scottish Gov, which increase the workload. Ask Scottish Government to provide funding with any new process or delivery measure.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Invest in detection lights in offices and schools. When no movement has been detected in the office and/or classroom, the lights will automatically turn off. Although initially costly, this saved Fife Council money when I lived there.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	install more solar panels on council properties to help with this	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	as driver of an electric car .. the availability and number of charging points is still poor and not enough in place	4. The council is already doing this.	With the implementation of charging, this will stimulate the market with commercial operators installing more charging points without fear of being undercut by free public provision. Evidence shows that free public provision prevents wider investment to increase charging points.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Invest in good quality M&E services report including condition or detailed feasibility report how to save energy	4. The council is already doing this.	This information is used to inform energy audits to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Get Solar panels on council and school roofs!!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The lack of insulation in schools is, in 2022, a laughable disgrace. I remember first talking about this on school boards in 2009. You've wasted so much money by not doing simple and obvious work on insulation, doors and windows. Just get it done.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has improved insulation in buildings, implementing energy efficiency measures and renewables where it is assessed as cost effective.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The council is currently pursuing a programme to instal something in the region of 12 new pedestrian crossings, none of which meet the requirement criteria. This will use up new resources in providing new poles, lights, installation of new road markings, perhaps laying new surfacing materials, new traffic signs and of course, new electricity supplies. All of which needs to be maintained for ever and a day. So, this flies in the face of the council's statement of it's desire to reduce carbon emisions, as this kind of approach only increases them. The construction of any project which isn't necessary only adds to the carbon footprint. The construction of essential projects and the maintenance of our infrastructure is absolutely necessary, but these initiatives to boost spend and profile in the locality are not. The other downside to this is that officers time is taken up with unnecessary projects.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	How does the council intend to provide electric chargers for the use of the public when they can't get enough parking spaces needed for the parking of private owned cars	4. The council is already doing this.	Future electric vehicle policy to be developed and existing vehicle chargers are in place across West Lothian.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I also think the Council needs to look at any new builds coming in through planning be them private or commercial and make sure they are up to certain standards in terms of energy consumptions etc.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Good, but it can lead to dark times. Need time and research	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	We need to reduce, it is a government commitment	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Carbon Emissions must be addressed and maintained for the future	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I don't know how well the council does this. We need to support global warming.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Again keep costs and all work in house not paying outside contractors fpr all works	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I think one wat to reduce energy costs would be to turn off traffic lights at night. Driving back from Glasgow the other night through Livingston we were stopped at the lights at the hospital, the main lights at the St Margaret's, livi village crossroads and then Lidl. There was no other traffic. Could these be turned off between say 12pm and 5am and just treated as normal un traffic light junctions?;	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council must deliver safe roads therefore it is not possible to remove all traffic lights. Where it is assessed as safe, temporary lights are in place. Requirements are implemented on a risk based basis.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Switch of street lights at 12pm	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	West Lothian Council sold off large swathes of land currently being used for renewable energy. Most of Blacklaw could already be used by WLC to create its own energy. Instead it was sold off to mult national companies for no benefit to the community.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council does not have the skills or expertise to create its own energy. In addition, limited capital resources means the council would not have the resources available to create the infrastructure to support this. Given reduced resources in revenue and capital, the council has to focus on delivery of core activities that support agreed priorities. The sale of council land generates resources for the capital programme which is reinvested in the council's asset base.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Could yous invest in putting solar panels on all new homes built.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council has a programme of installing solar panels on council houses. The council does not have the resources or power to install solar panels on non-council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree we need to reduce energy consumption but this requires investment (and realistic appraisal of benefits). Existing energy savings can be offset by additional maintenance and replacement costs making the investment worthless. Given our resources (waste) assets (large areas of land that are undeveloped) could we invest in generating energy rather than small measures?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council does not have the skills or expertise to create its own energy. In addition, limited capital resources means the council would not have the resources available to create the infrastructure to support this. Given reduced resources in revenue and capital, the council has to focus on delivery of core activities that support agreed priorities. The council will review how undeveloped land could be sold to generate resources for capital investment.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	It is not gonna work, dark medieval time. Planet does not want to save herself	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	All approved projects have estimated payback periods substantially shorter than the lifetime of the equipment and produce revenue savings for the council. The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Carbon emissions are by no means not important, but in times of such dire finances perhaps these could be put on a back burner and more money saved.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	All approved projects have estimated payback periods substantially shorter than the lifetime of the equipment and produce revenue savings for the council. The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Might not give everyone electricity, keep things the way they are	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. This includes action to reduce energy consumption.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	no use	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Woke agenda increases budgets stip psndering and start prioritising properly	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Why would you reduce carbon? Plants thrive on carbon, you will be choking the planet by reducing carbon	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No. This always turns out to be a net cost. Green agenda should be when we can afford it	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. Focus is on affordability however given energy price increases, it is important to implement savings in this area.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Not that bothered we've survived this long	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council has an energy reduction work plan and is committed to exploring opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions, improved energy efficiency of buildings and equipment and changing the behaviour of users in council buildings. The council has already delivered considerable savings through energy efficiency and will continue to do this to offset the substantial cost increases in energy.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Cost of living crisis more important at present!	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council has an energy reduction work plan and is committed to exploring opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions, improved energy efficiency of buildings and equipment and changing the behaviour of users in council buildings. The council has already delivered considerable savings through energy efficiency and will continue to do this to offset the substantial cost increases in energy.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No such thing as climate change, get grip	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. One of the council's priorities is the environment.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Abandon any of these projects entirely if they cost money.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	All approved projects have estimated payback periods substantially shorter than the lifetime of the equipment and produce revenue savings for the council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Ban WL council vehicles from sitting idle with engines running. Bad for environment and waste of money.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Review smart dress at work expectations to encourage the wearing of jumpers in winter, enabling people to work more comfortably in cooler office environments	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Put solar panels on the roofs of all the council buildings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Right folks, it's time to turn that thermostat down another notch. Don't worry, we'll keep it above freezing. Just.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Stop heating and lighting empty offices after adjusting the length of working week.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I have an electric car for this reason. The number of rapid charging places is woefully inadequate	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	School buildings should be fitted with solar panels to provide electricity for the school.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Get all council staff to switch of lights and electrical devices at the end of working days. We are very lax in this.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We undertake extensive behaviour change programmes including focusing on the energy efficient operation of sites in our highest consuming buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Can you cut expenses through use of solar or wind energy on site? Can you make the next fleet of Council vehicles EV or Hydrogen powered?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	this is important. I think it needs to be taken into account when looking at public transport subsidy amounts also. If we had a good reliable public transport service, carbon emmissions could be very much reduced.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. This includes all aspects relating to carbon emissions including building and transport.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	As staff have been told to return to the office they are therefore producing carbon emissions having to travel, use the electricity and facilities in the buildings they are now back in. If you want to save money, embrace fully mobile working and leave it up to staff, wherever possible, to decide. We could save money on electricity alone by not mandating that staff attend offices. It may also go some way to making a positive difference in morale and help attract staff into vacant roles.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	solar	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	BUILDINGS HEATING LIGHTING COSTS COULD BE EFFECTIVE	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I recently attended a meeting at Broxburn Academy. I was in the school for 40 mins and was half cooked by the time I left. The heat was ridiculous! How that can justified now I don't know. That building easily felt like 30 degrees. How wasteful is it to have a school heated so much that windows have to be opened to make it bearable.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	these cost savings are minimal and can be easily impacted by budgeting; - all lights/ equipment should have power saving modes enacted, or turned off completely.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I would encourage the use of renewable energy projects, especially hydro and wind.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	If heating in Council buildings was managed better this could be one of the best ways to save money. Heating is not turned off at a reasonable time of year. I understand the need for things to be controlled centrally, however, when staff ask for heating to be turned off it should be done.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	heating of building should be checked that its off in summertime.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Council buildings have had heating on throughout summer months - this could be looked at to reduce costs. Armadale Partnership building had heating on when not required	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	There has been a street light on all day and night for the last 4 years you could put the lights off that are always on	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for action.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Maybe we need to turn down lighting and heating in council properties? Do we really need street lights throughout all hours of darkness?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	make use of renewable technology to assist with energy cost reductions	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Micro generation at Beecraigs. Any plans?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Please consider staffing on shifts when reducing heating in their area. Shift workers matter too. Unless some can work at home.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. This will take into account shift patterns in individual properties.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	All Council buildings would benefit from solar panels and insulation, why can't this be done when places are first built?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Improved insulation, solar panels???	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The council need to look at school heating particularly where it seems to be operated centrally. Schools that operate this way can have heating still on in the hot weather.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Solar panels should be installed at schools etc	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.

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WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I would be very happy to see further green energy options being used throughout West Lothian to limit our requirement for fossil fueled energy. This could include wind, solar and water. Good quality initiatives for households to install battery storage especially if they already have solar panels	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Is that all? How? What about wind turbines on school fields or other large spaces you have? Maybe you could even make money from it? Hydro on almond river or wind at Beecraigs?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Perhaps heating in council buildings should be reviewed as partnership centre had heating on all Summer, despite reporting this!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	A huge saving would be to review the heating in schools. I know in my school the heating was on in the summer, right through the heatwave, making the learning environment extremely uncomfortable for staff and learners. It is often excessively hot in school and I'm sure with the current rising costs of energy this could be much better managed. Lights left on in buildings after closing time could be re-thought too.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	We should absolutely be looking at energy efficiency as a priority. Our schools buildings are not energy efficient and this could be one means of savings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Try turning heating off in council buildings during the summer when it is reported and savings would be made on this cost.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The council needs to embrace energy efficiency. Too many underoccupied buildings with heating and lighting on each day	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Why is it necessary to have so many street and path lights burning? I like countless others, have light shining through windows which can have real impact on sleeping. Also, I like countless other have a greenhouse in their garden. If you know anything about plant growth, you will know that they need natural light (LIGHT AND DARK). So why are we subjected to a garden that is alluminated all night by street lights? Turn off unrequired lamps and save who knows, how much money.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Street lighting: appropriate lighting is required by law to enhance public safety. The council has an LED replacement programme as this is the most sustainable and energy efficient option that is currently available.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Savings could be generated by ceasing the provision of free electricity to drivers of EVs. This has been a welcome initiative to encourage EV uptake but now charge points are routinely blocked for many hours by those who drop their Web off and then get a lift home in petrol cars. It prevents those who genuinely need a charge from using the infrastructure.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Investment may be needed before savings can be made due to the age of some of the buildings. Staff also have a part to play in this by switching off lights and not having equipment left on that is not required.; Meetings should be held virtually, where possible, to reduce costs. More are now being held in person since the pandemic restrictions have been lifted. I think that this is a step back after the work that was put in place during the pandemic.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's property asset management strategy and capital programme seek to identify planned maintenance to building fabric, within the parameters of constrained financial resources, to minimise reactive maintenance going forward. Investment will be prioritised to maintain buildings required for service delivery in as good a condition as possible given the revenue and capital financial constraints facing the council. Due to the constraints, and to prioritise limited resources, there will be a need to rationalise buildings. We undertake extensive behaviour change programmes including focusing on the energy efficient operation of sites in our highest consuming buildings.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I work in Whitehall depot which has a exceptionally large roof, if the spine of the roof had wind turbines along it(there are many different types and sizes of turbines, even bladeless ones). The council would save a fortune in electricity bills.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I own a hybrid electric vehicle and am amazed that the council offers free electricity to charge my car in the council car parks. I have my own charger at home and the costs savings using electricity are 60% of running costs whilst compared with Diesel e.g it costs me 10p per mile on electric and 25p a mile on Diesel. I know it's a government incentive to get people to help get people onto electric. However I didn't know it was free to charge my car in the council car parks, so it certainly wasn't an influencing factor in my decision to buy a hybrid. The recent BBC Scotland disclosure programme estimates that the councils are failing to collect around £3m in revenue by not charging. This is also having a knock on effect in charge points not being maintained or replaced with more modern chargepoints as some of them have been installed for 10 years. Free electricity is also hampering expansion of the network because private companies cannot provide a service to compete with a free service because some people are bypassing the chargeable ev charge points to use the free ones. So if councils charged for use, used the revenue to maintain, improve and expand the network it would be a win for everyone.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Are there adequate investments made in wind and solar power and battery storage provision across the council's property portfolio?; Is there sufficient encouragement for the drivers of council vehicles to minimise journeys to those that are only absolutely necessary? Can the council vehicle fleet be rationalised to offer cost savings from the use of more electric vehicles?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. The council will look to reduce vehicles in line with revised service requirements.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Disgraceful the number of electric cars being purchased and used by the council .. most people have access to their own or can get access to a car. Lots of more savings can be estimated here. Need more details on other projects	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an energy reduction work plan and is committed to exploring opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions, improved energy efficiency of buildings and equipment and changing the behaviour of users in council buildings. The council has already delivered considerable savings through energy efficiency. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	See previous comments about lights being left on constantly in council buildings	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council already has motion sensors in place in number of locations and will introduce on an ongoing basis where there is a business case to do so.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Floodlights in play areas - make an option to pay for use.; E.g. - for playing in a basketball play area you can pay by using an app for a 1h court illumination.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews its charging and concessions policy and this can be considered as part of the next review.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Better manage heating in schools! Often it's like an absolute sauna and we're having to open windows while unable to turn heating down! Get the heating managed in each school rather than centrally.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Can we ensure young people have the opportunity to actively participate in energy efficiency/renewable energy projects. ; ; They are inheriting so many climate related issues so we owe it to them that the issues, and the measures adults are making to tackle them, are visible and that their voices can be heard in the process.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Turning down the heating at schools and other council building should happen. The schools are kept at a level where the staff and children are walking around in thin clothing in the middle of winter. Obviously, care homes etc need to be kept warmer but the heating in schools just causes germs to breed and reducing the temperature across the region would produce a financial saving.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	i hope that this will include reviewing the heating in school classrooms. I couldn't believe the heat in some of the classrooms when we visited Linlithgow Academy recently and my children, and teachers, confirmed that they were like that during the school day and there was no way to reduce the temperature other than opening a window! My boys primary school was similar (including in the newly built section of the school)	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. We undertake extensive behaviour change programmes including focusing on the energy efficient operation of sites in our highest consuming buildings.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Along with 4D above a holistic and long-term plan needs to be made for WLC's land and water assets with a view to ensuring that opportunities for helping WLC's response to the Climate Change Crisis are considered. It is not clear that all opportunities are being taken to manage these in a truly sustainable manner ie the 3-legged stool of Financial - Social - Environmental sustainability. There appear to be a number of poorly considered and sometimes uncoordinated Nature Recovery and Climate Change projects being pursued to spend the funding in short timescales rather than well-informed, better considered, longer-term ones which can deliver on all of the above. Careful choice of species and multipurpose management of trees and woods required - leading to greater resilience, ability to adapt, better return on investment in terms of:- Financial return from timber and other forest products - timber prices are going up and likely to continue; Longer value as landscape features eg specimen trees planted and tended around 1800AD at Almondell have outlived the ; mansion house giving 200 years of benefit whereas many planted in parks and residential areas have been strimmed to death within a few years!; Multi-purpose management also takes into consideration biodiversity and flooding. New methods of quantifying and measuring all these aspects (including potential financial returns / savings) would assist decision making.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. There is an action plan to ensure the council makes progress in reducing carbon emissions and there has been good progress to date, with performance targets being exceeded.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Provide more charging points and solar. ; Some local authorities use their lamp posts with modified access panels to support EV charging while parked. This should be looked at as a priority to help boost the ev charging infrastructure in west Lothian	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Look at more working from home. More people in one building-	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Start to switch off lights at schools, that's one way to go ;). Each time I'm at school for kids, I see street lights on. For sure we can do something about it?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	See 4D above re Beecraigs Farm. Paper on WLC's Land and Water Assets and Climate Change sent to Climate Change Manager a year or two ago but heard nothing further. Suggested looking at small scale hydro (Archimedes Screw type facilities) be investigated along WLC owned section of River Almond - possibly could have been done along fish passes on weirs if holistic approach had been taken - sites may not be suitable - need to be reasonably close to existing electric cables. Also, on smaller more up-stream burns one I know near Loch Lomond put in by energy company provides net income of £24k / annum for at least 30years. Greater use of harvested trees for timber and panel board for construction which continues to store C as opposed to woodfuel. Housing and Property Services could use more timber in construction, as a much more energy efficient material than steel, concrete and brick - Highland Council put on a housing Expo a number of years ago. Lots of good information from Napier University and Wood for Good. UK currently imports 80% of its timber (2nd largest nett importer after China!) probably contributing to the decline in virgin forest cover in countries like Latvia ie just shifting the problem to others!	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. There is an action plan to ensure the council makes progress in reducing carbon emissions and there has been good progress to date, with performance targets being exceeded.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Cleaning staff leaving every light on even after they have cleaned and left the room should be instructed to switch lights when finished and save energy.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Start charging for the charging points as this is mainly those with higher disposable incomes like me that have electric cars. Bring in mo et through charging to charge your car and use it for other priorities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	How much will it cost to purchase these renewable energy products to allow this efficiency given that my tenants homes windows are not wind and watertight.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Energy efficient products provide savings to offset their costs or are required to meet legislated compliance requirements.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	B	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	See previous request for solar panels on council buildings	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This applies to everyone.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	How?	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I am fed up with SG, they pledge to do more but are more focussed on Indi	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Don't leave equipment on standby	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Smart street light camera with built-in 5g frequency to fry the brains	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Load of s£\$%^	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	A four day week for schools would reduce carbon emissions from cars and heating.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Currently authorities are required to provide 190 days of education. This may form part of the National Discussion on Education and its future delivery.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Renewable energies! Why are our costs going up if we are using so much renewable energy??	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although the council has invested in renewable technology, the majority of energy still comes from traditional sources. The increase in energy costs has impacted the council in the same way as it has impacted households.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Give a grant on solar panels for all, or discount tax by installing them	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Discounts for tax would have to be decided and implemented by UK and Scottish Governments. Given the council's extremely challenging revenue and capital financial position, and the need to make substantial savings to balance the budget which we must do by law, there is not resources available to give everyone solar panels.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Every house built new should be greener, solar panels, energy efficient boilers or air source heat pumps, and what about mini wind turbines for each new estate to power street lights houses etc, not that I know much about it all	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Nobody will be able to afford to run their car or waste energy. They will struggle to get a bus with our diabolical service so what emissions would that be? Make the companies doing the ommitting pay the clean up	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Needs more clarity on what these new projects will be. There has been no affordable way for middle income families to have an electric car, grants should be made available for people who want to run a more energy efficient home.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Energy efficiency grants are determined and administered by the Scottish Government.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	All developments must have solar panels or be passive houses.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Planning legislation mandating renewable or other carbon reducing technology is determined by the Scottish Government. The Sustainable Construction Policy helps to ensure new builds and refurbishments are as energy efficient as possible.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Encourage the private sector to invest in renewable energy, especially community and district heating schemes. Also consider small scale hydro generation.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council has no authority to require the private sector to invest in renewable energy. The Sustainable Construction Policy (set by the Scottish Government) helps to ensure new builds and refurbishments are as energy efficient as possible.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I didn't know we did this... Perhaps a bit more of it could be included in the kinect magazine?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The connect magazine is not a council publication. The council regularly publicises developments in this area in the council newspaper (Bulletin), online and in social media.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The whole of the UK and world need to be careful	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Why was ms sturgeon at the last two overseas conferences ???? Why were anybody there Zoom is marvellous.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	looks like Mrs Sturgeon has been given the go ahead for her Fracking initiative	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Where relevant, we will forward these comments to the appropriate organisations.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Agree, The proposed new slip road for M9 north at Springfield end of Linlithgow is desperately needed.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The Scottish Government and developers will deliver a new junction.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	more details required on this, what exactly is planned? there are no targets, no commentary to existing activity, or any info on what's proposed to change	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The information being given to be commented on is so vague it makes it impossible to answer and in some cases understand and therefore I have been unable to give Frank response	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	There is very little detail contained within the narrative to make an informed comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	I would like to say Hooray! But what projects are you talking about!!!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	how?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Very vague - this would need additional clarification as well as details on how these proposals would impact local communities.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	More info please	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Not enough information	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	No detail provided.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Not enough information to comment.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	dont really know what this mean	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity.; ; There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	Again not very specific.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	The lack of real facts and figures about what is going to change makes it a challenge to comment effectively. More information is required before any meaningful consultation can take place. We should be provided with a statement for each section and the option to agree, disagree or have no opinion. I would strongly urge the council to re-present this consultation in a more user friendly format.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	How do you save ? I d like to know more in depth details.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	This question fails to explain how energy consumption & carbon emissions will be reduced. Closing needed public services, community centres or hubs, school assets, nursery schools, reducing the operating times of schools, reducing bus services & then claiming success in meeting green targets is a failure. It's robbing Peter to pay Paul.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Unfortunately part of the solution to reducing carbon assumption is reduction of public buildings. Given the climate and funding emergency facing councils, it is essential that the number of public buildings across Scotland reduces.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Environment, Climate Change	4G Reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency	How ? This is so unbelievably vague	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would be ok with this if some of the other services were not cut within the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs or increase funding.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	A £5 pm waste collection charge would be affordable for most. Those who can afford to pay a small fee, should.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree commercial property lease review for for-profit companies.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The council could definitely take a more commercial approach to leasing its buildings and facilities. This will mean cleaning and maintaining them properly though. We hired a community hall for our daughters birthday and couldn't believe it only cost £5	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually invests in community facilities and has recently built a number of partnership centres with improved facilities for communities. The Council will offer communities the opportunity to access community facilities in partnership with other organisations. Community groups will have the opportunity to request ownership of properties through the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015,
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I'd be willing to pay a nominal fee for garden waste collection if it avoided more important cuts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Would be prepared to pay in the region of £25 annually for garden waste collection.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree re garden waste charge;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	A minimal charge for garden waste removal would be acceptable. However, dont forget the quality of the overall environment of the county is hugely down to individual gardeners providing natural beauty in their gardens to be admired and enjoyed by others. It has an effect on everyones mental health.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree. Garden waste charges should be introduced in line with a lot of other councils in Scotland. It should be tied into a strategy of encouraging composting and carbon reduction which would show that the council is taking a greener approach to service delivery.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Point 1 would encourage more fly tipping.; Point -I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Builders yes charge them more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Maximise income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. Developer contributions to be reviewed in line with guidance when applicable.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Look at developers they are the businesses making the money! It's just the will make a little less or add it on somewhere else.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Maximise income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. Developer contributions to be reviewed in line with guidance when applicable.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	This sounds a good idea - but you don't want to put start-up businesses off. Is there any way allowance can be made for them, given that they might then bring jobs and wealth into the area?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Business Gateway supports all businesses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	developer contributions should be maximised, commercial rates for companies making large profits need to increase significantly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Maximise income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. Developer contributions to be reviewed in line with guidance when applicable.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	GREAT job 👍	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increasing charges is difficult but people need to realise that without increased fees, there would have to be more cuts. Agree the council needs to do more in this area - the council is not maximising opportunities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	That's nice	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Seems reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Positive	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All apart from the first one.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Leasing facilities to commercial groups is a good way to use up facilities, keep the community involved and earn more money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	4 bullets asked for - response is No, yes yes yes I'm that order.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All makes sense.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes, these are all sensible options	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	This seems sensible, though if you need funding why not put up council tax for the top bands?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	In line with other offerings at other councils	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agreed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why is this not already in place? Rents should be reviewed on a reoccurring basis to align with inflation	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease facilities... absolutely. Make the council building make money. Review rents and fee's... I do not know enough to comment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Okay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There is a need to make money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	After reading the above, I will continue to trust your decisions in the areas I have no experience in , but thank you for the opportunity to co-operate !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree the areas of additional income with exception of household garden waste as this is now where food waste is disposed. We are being encouraged to recycle and this may be a deterrent. Would not want an additional bin to be provided for food waste as there are now already four bins in use.; ; Consider charging for public car parking areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions. The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste charges may result in more fly tipping so not convinced this is economical. Even if collections went to once per month and food waste had to go on grey bin.; I thought planning fees were set by Scottish Government?; Other proposals sound reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions. Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Absolutely review fees to maximise developer contributions!! New builds in this area should NOT be approved without an agreement for both school provision AND medical provision ie GP practice. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure. The council has no legal authority to apply developer contributions for health provision.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Social enterprise leases are a good idea. Commercial operators should be charged much more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Many other authorities have already done this. Seems reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for household garden waste collections, ok. I don't have a garden, pity those who do.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All of the above areas should be ones where the council is looking to raise revenue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree will all with the exception of a fee for garden waste. This may see people dumping garden waste in public places costing more to put right.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would support additional charges and income in principal if the services provided by the additional charges are better than the current services provided, I would not support for example garden waste if the waste was not then collected when i expected or in a timely mannor	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I appreciate all the support thank you so much	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If we are to pay for our brown bins to be uplifted-a way for you to compost the food waste and garden waste which helps reduce reuse recycle surely????	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I'm not sure why charges for garden waste haven't come in yet - they keep being proposed. Would it lead to more fly tipping though?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't think paying for garden waste is ideal but it all seems somewhat reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes to charges for garden waste ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of fees for planning advisory services and to maximise developer contributions - large developers like cala should be paying already as they build for profit. Why aren't they?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Maximise from developers.. absolutely. They charge a fortune for property anyway.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Revising planning fees and rents seems fair given your costs will be going up.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes to above apart from household garden waste.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The charges for the household garden waste collections has already been started in Edinburgh and Midlothian so it is inevitable that it will be started in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I believe the Council needs to be much more ambitious in this area and a target of £10 million over 3 years should be set	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	agree re rent for council properties, if they are not community services, or charities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Any proposed increase in rents would be for the commercial property portfolio. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	leasing to commercial operators could be increased;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The other charges sound reasonable to me,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household waste will result in fly tipping and countryside damage which will cost the council money rather than save money. Agree to all other measures but brown bins could be collected less frequent but do not charge for them as it will cause more harm than good. People will not pay and they will dump. And food will end up back in landfill.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would strongly resist introduction of charges for household garden waste (especially as these bins are now also used for food waste); Where services are provided as a discretionary (such as planning advisory, commercial rents etc) then these should be provided at market rates (i.e. in line with other council areas)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would not mind a small payment for Garden Waste services as this seems to be what is done in other councils, if the waste ended up flytipped it should not pose to much of an environmental risk like we are seeing with other waste. I am sure people would pay for uplifts if needed on big items, but the payment structure has to match the waste. £25 for a couch to be tipped is not value for money. Maybe some consultation with residents about what they feel is fair?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fully agree that there is an opportunity to maximise developer contributions - could really do with a Developer Obligations Officer - there a five tests that need to be met, so it is not a simple task. If not done correctly and challenged, it can and has resulted in costs been awarded to developers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council maximises contributions from developers in line with legal agreements.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Good, as long as garden waste is not fly tipped as a result.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	agree - get on with it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Worth exploration.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	my concern would be 'flytipping' how would the council deal with this? is it a problem now and how big would the problem likely be if bullet point 1 is carried out. the others I agree with	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think it is not unreasonable to charge for some services or use of premises	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Empty council buildings should be utilised by commercial operators at a charge which will bring in more revenue	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements. This provides an opportunity for commercial operators to purchase surplus council sites and buildings for future development.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If garden waste charges are to be considered then please think of the risk of increased fly tipping instances and the fact people will put it in the other collection bins they already have. If we have to go to the recycling centre then take back the brown bins. Planning fees should be increased accordingly. Leasing facilities are also a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The Council has a duty to maximise income from all areas. Charging for Garden waste collections is something that should have been done long ago. Start charging proper fines for late library books, etc. Increase all commercial rents. Increase all fees for all public facing service, and particularly increase fees associated with planning. The Council must be more commercially focused to reduce the burden on the council taxpayer while ensuring core service provision for the most vulnerable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fee for household and garden waste seems fair as not every house has a garden.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	It sounds like you need to be more ambitious here. With your new improved IT systems, this should be straight forward enough.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Definitely charging for planning advice is a good plan	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree. Grass cuttings could be left on lawns rather than collected	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Edinburgh already charge for brown bin collection. This way those that use it pay and those who don't do not.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Most would welcome additional services at a cost. Other proposals sound OK.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree. All of the areas listed seem like sensible ideas to generate income. Could the council not look at car parking charging to increase income, in our local town centre council car parks or in our country parks?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Makes sense to look at all areas where income could be increased and come into line with how a private company would operate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think there is ways for the council to generate money as there is dead space within the council buildings that can be used to generate money and looking at the facilities they have the now and see what rental areas they have the now that are not being charged for	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As I have said a number of times I don't believe third parties working on behalf of the council are always best value. With commercial properties, I think businesses expect rent reviews on leased commercial properties.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rents and fees for commercial properties should be inline with private landlords fees rather than discounted.; Developers should pay higher charges for planning services.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would be careful that business' don't go elsewhere but mostly agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing charges will ensure continuation of service delivery and help safeguard employment for staff.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I agree with some of this but only if wages are going to increase so people can afford these charges	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think the council should definitely increase income - cutting services continually should not be the only option	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I agree with reviewing rents/fees for commercial properties, as long as they are not being prices out of the market for small businesses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fee reviews no objections. Lease facilities no objections, why doesn't WLC consider approaches for new facilities like a new catering pitch at a country park site. Rent reviews no objections although I think you'll struggle in the current climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would be prepared to pay a reasonable fee for household garden collections.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The council should be seeking to increase the income it generates to help offset government funds being reduced so am supportive of this and consider the council should be more innovative in this area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increased fees for planning and leases seem logical.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council. The council has no ability to raise fees.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	These are fair proposals	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Would agree with all these proposals	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	increase income save some services is the way forward	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Leasing facilities seems like a good idea	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would support a SMALL charge for collecting garden waste, no more than £50 per annum. But you've made this difficult to do in practice given we also use garden bins for food waste. ; The other proposals sound inevitable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I realise that money will have to be generated. A charge for household garden waste is already in place in other council areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review rent fees.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Also consider charging for brown bin up lift but do not introduce private sector collections.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	sounds fine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase rents and rates to the large warehouses in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with review of fees, leasing and fees	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If the lets are affordable they are more likely to be used. Advertising what is available will bring in more revenue.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Reviewing contributions from commercial operators and developers should be a focus of increasing income before further strain is placed on the household incomes of local people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with all EXCEPT household garden waste collection.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Seems sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Good ideas	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with trying to reclaim mor ein fees from developers etc however	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	ok with this - please ensure rail concessionary travel goes. waste of money	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with fees for letting of facilities for commercial operators to be looked	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The others I agree with this is not a charity	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase charges for uplifts planning applications	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions. Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council. The council has no ability to raise fees.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase charges for uplifts, business recycling	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase charges for uplifts,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not agree fees on household collections. ; Increase charges for uplifts, business recycling, planning applications, private house builders fees.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Leasing facilities and reviewing rent is a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste charging is a good idea - Edinburgh council and others do it so why shouldn't we. Leasing facilities to social enterprises would be a good way to supporting business growth	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Edinburgh charges for garden recycling suppose it's inevitable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not sure. Would charging for garden waste be expensive to administer? If not, okay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Planning fees could have a minimum number trigger?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase charges for uplifts planning applications	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase charges for private house builders fees	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with fees for planning to be looked at	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	i support the remaining 2 points.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	please stop paying for rail concessionary travel	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with the above changes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Well overdue	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with all of the above, however, does this means there will be yet another bin having to be introduced for food waste.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduce a cost for organisations are hosting organised events; Increase rents and fees ; Review staffing - invest in the youth as part of the work force - less wages	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored. The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Commercial property rents should be set by the market and not internally! Agree with introduction of garden waste collection charges and parking charges - in the appropriate locations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would be prepared to make a nominal payment towards the collection of household garden waste collections. I am unsure, however how this money would be collected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If garden waste collections were chargeable it would need to be in line with what other councils charge, £30 pa I believe. However I don't know how u stop people who don't pay putting their bin out or using someone else's	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Sounds sensible to review these. Paying for garden waste is common elsewhere but doing so would possibly reduce overall recycling particularly given that food waste now goes into the garden waste	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No issues with paying for garden waste to be collected but what would happen to food waste? Really don't want a 5th bin...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	First two - fine! Would leasing be cheaper in the long run? Some rents could be increased but tenants need to see a standard of property for this - thinking of older stock houses and upgrades needed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses. The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I agree with this source.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease facilities to a commercial operator, social enterprise or franchise: - Agree with this proposal as this good to fund better education for the schools. Review of rents and fees for the council's commercial properties.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of rents and fees for the council's commercial properties: - Increases within reason not to lose teh fees and rent.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We're financially comfortable and would be fine with paying for garden waste collection. But I don't understand how that would work when the food waste is collected in the same bin, and food waste not going into landfill is something we want to encourage.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	In line with other local authorities - garden waste could be charged for - although people are already paying council tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging separately for household garden waste collection is not likely to raise money as people will simply not get it collected and/or will dispose of it in other ways (good and bad); The other suggestions are sensible	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rent out all council buildings that are sitting derelict	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Alternative uses for buildings are considered, subject to an appropriate business case being established. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Reviewing (by which you mean increasing) planning advisory fees - yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Absolutely review of fees for planning advisory services in relation to maximising developer contributions,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of fees for planning advisory services and to maximise developer contributions:	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	WLC should be ensuring a significant fee from developers to offset for Servies to local communities that cannot engage within their market.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Absolutely maximise developer contributions...particularly where planning is won on appeal to the reporter!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Support a charge for garden waste - but what about food waste for those who don't have gardens? If people elect to not have a brown bin for garden waste, what happens with food waste ?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Definitely maximise developer contributions! So much development has already happened, have we missed out?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No views on this. Charging for waste is normal in other Local Authority areas and would personally have no issue with this. If WLC are looking to consolodate the number of council owned buildings / properties, surely there is an opportunity to have private organisations lease / buy these types of buildings.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes the council needs to review opportunities for income	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All the others sound okay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All other suggestions sound like a good idea.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think the garden waste collection charge is worth introducing. It will increase fly tipping in some areas though. It will mean some users with multiple brown bins will pay significantly more than a single bin user, which is fair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree need to bring income in where can get this. Other councils do this. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would be happy to pay an annual fee for garden waste, however I do think food waste should be picked up weekly! Increased rents etc would only be feasible if the leaseholder could afford them!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions. The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Planning advisory service fee review sounds sensible, this is often an optional thing people do and charges should be scaled to the cost of the time taken for the advising.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All of tye above methods of increasing income should be considered	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	3. if not removing a council service then this seems reasonable;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Leasing of properties is a good idea for generating income.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges to any waste shall encourage fly tipping.; Fees should be reviewed annually.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not agree with charging to remove any waste. Many People will not do it and some areas will be a mess. Agree with others.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Midlothian are already charging for garden waste,	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would support investigation for these additional sources of income but once again, would urge caution on impacting those who need the most help in society. Increasing leases for social enterprises will have a huge impact on that social enterprise and those they work with.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	This seems sensible but our food waste goes in the garden waste which the Council needs us to recycle to reduce waste so it isnt clear how this will overall result in not increase waste. We have a huge problem with illegal dumping where we live and this will be exacerbated further with additional costs to the Council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes charge for the uplift of garden waste.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I know other councils charge for garden waste. So west lothian can start.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I agree with all points except point one re garden waste. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Would support looking at options for increasing income, though noting this is challenging.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase the fees and charges in line with other Scottish councils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fine but please don't drive businesses and clubs out of our towns; ; Community is so important and these are a key part of it. ; ; They make people want to live here	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review the rent etc but garden waste this will result in fly tipping or worse...why do we pay council tax again !!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Leasing properties I think would be good source of income for council if they have suitable properties for this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	For the other commercial adjustments it will be up to those businesses if the pay or have to close.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges should be in line with similar councils, if they are lower they should be raised to fair level	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Sell buildings not in use and stop wasting huge amounts money on fixing work that was already done to below par standard.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. The review of council facilities will consider a number of factors but the demand and current use of the facility will be one of the main considerations.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge more to all businesses!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Franchises and developer fees are a good option. Commercial rents should only be increased by 1 or 2 percent to keep employers in the area. Consider parking charges in the most built up areas to maximise revenue and reduce unsafe parking, minimal parking charges e.g 50p per 30 mins etc or something similar	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	This all seems like a very good idea - and impacts those that can best afford it, I would strongly support the council improving its business approach	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with this. At some point rents and fees for commercial properties would have to increase just the same as Council Tax had to rise after being frozen for many years.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rent on your properties are too cheap. Increase these rents	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	2 & 3 probably OK; ; Rent for council commercial property - ok if not out of kilter with the market rate;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There should be a commercial rate charged for companies using Council properties. Social enterprises should not be dealt with in the same way and evaluated as a service to the community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Renting council properties out for weekends will help generate more income.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't agree about garden waste, it will end up in another bin or be dumped somewhere. The rest is OK.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would support all of the above except the charges for garden waste collections - this will result in illegal dumping of waste throughout the county.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All services for commercial businesses should be on a full cost recovery basis, unless there is a clear social benefit to the community and the applicant is non-profit.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If facilities are not being used then they should be rented out providing it doesn't impact on any housing areas.; Rent and fees should be reasonable to attract clients.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree to these except garden waste charges as this would be likely to result in increase in fly tipping.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I'm in favour of raising all of these provided no cuts to pupil transport or the school day proceed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rent reviews should surely be part of normal business.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	the Council is currently consulting on the rent strategy for the next 5 year period, with tenants being asked to comment on proposed rent increase of 3.5% and 4%. Council rents support delivery of a reactive housing management service for tenants, a property maintenance service and delivery of new build council houses.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rent increases for the properties the council rent would be a given. As long as it was within reason.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	the Council is currently consulting on the rent strategy for the next 5 year period, with tenants being asked to comment on proposed rent increase of 3.5% and 4%. Council rents support delivery of a reactive housing management service for tenants, a property maintenance service and delivery of new build council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Revoiew of rents and fees should be annual like any social housing rented property with the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	the Council is currently consulting on the rent strategy for the next 5 year period, with tenants being asked to comment on proposed rent increase of 3.5% and 4%. Council rents support delivery of a reactive housing management service for tenants, a property maintenance service and delivery of new build council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agreed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with proposal	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	bulky uplift should be charged; brown bins are £35 a year in Edinibrgh	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As long as it's an agreed payment for charges for household garden waste and not imposed because you can have your brown bin back. We pay council tax for among other things waste disposal, but did not ask for all these bins. I will deal with it myself if necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	garden waste should be charged	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Cleanliness in Livingston is very important, and waste collection is an important service which should be kept free if at all possible. It contributes to the priority for quality access to public open spaces.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden Waste; I live in Clacks where garden Waste collection is charged - I compost all of my garden waste in a compost bin and "hot bin". At the same time as introducing charges would it be possible to offer reduced price bins. The "hot bin" cost >£100 but is very efficient and can take food waste as well.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Waste kerb side collection should be chargeable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes to getting more money from developers!; Sliding scale for commercial operators perhaps?;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think the developers are the people to look at. They seem to dodge as many things as they can.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	2. developers should contribute more to the community.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Develop contributions should benefit the area where the development is located.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Develop contributions should be maximised!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Development charges should be increased, WL is more and more like lego.land, the infrastructure can't cope, roads are being closed, train station car parks are flooded and over subscribed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Maximising developer contributions makes sense and should be done as a matter of course.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Massively charge more to developers!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	planning fees should go up	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of fees for planning advisory services - yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Developers need to be encouraged to contribute more to where they plan to build, not just line their own pockets	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	However a review of fees for development contributions must happen.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes to charging developers more and make sure they do contribute and not use the loophole of building one less house so they don't hit the threshold. Retrospective charges should be increased, imposed and enforced.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fees especially developer ones should be linked to the potential profits obtained	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Developers should contribute.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Developers should pay more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Unavoidable. Housebuilding companies such as cala should be putting much more into the community to offset the damage caused by building homes purely for high income families	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Maximise on developer contributions and ensure those ready agreed are used.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Maximise developer contributions is essential and should also look at how they contribute to the local area - planting trees, shrubs, roads and drainage local to where they are building	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increasing fees on planning services seems reasonable and fair.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I agree with increasing developer contributions - this could be a good source of income for the council considering how many new developments are being given the go ahead to be built.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would be happy tp pay for garden waste collection, however I would fear people would dump? Fly tip due to low morals poor attitude etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with proposal- benchmark with other local authorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of rents and fees for councils commercial properties should be looked at, as costs increase every year and maintenance costs increase Reviewing of rents - Commercial property rents are undertaken in line with market evidence and under the terms specified in the lease this will not provide an uplift of x% per annum across the portfolio. reviews are usually 5 yearly; Reviewing of fees to be done in line with other council and consideration should also be given to the level of fees charged by private practice.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Household Garden Waste - noted and this should be in line with other council but at the same time not making it so costly that people start to fly tipping.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree, the Council should do all it can to generate income, rather than reduce services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with this proposal but not for those on low incomes also think that more opportunities should be considered for the delivery of services by social businesses and so is enterprise to provide employment opportunities for young people and adults with ASN's	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The administration of such a system would be cost prohibitive. The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Absolutely, we are asking for people to flytip though	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Explore funding from other areas to continue any service which benefits the poor or less affluent.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	as long as it doesn't impact disabled or elderly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As long as it does not impact on the disabled and elderly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The garden waste charge is a good idea but now includes food waste that you wanted to be separate from landfill. Could you have a glass recycling option?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collection charge proposals are ridiculous idea for income. Introducing these will lead to fly tipping or inclusion of garden waste in landfill or increased deposits at recycling centres leading to increased workloads there. ; If you introduce this and people don't take it up what happens to food waste? This returns to landfill undermining the green policies	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs or increase funding.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Suggest not including charges for garden waste collections as it will lead to fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs or increase funding.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you are going to introduce fees for taking away the brown bins, then people with just empty their bins in burns or parks.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	i would object to paying for garden waste as all i do is brush up the leaves from the councils trees,so how would that work !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household garden waste is hilarious as we have a maximum of 12 collections when there are no strikes. Look at how badly this has worked out for Edinburgh where they are charged for collections which repeatedly do not happen. Many people who have garden waste will simply put it in their grey bin or fly tip. Aside from this, how would you go about collecting food waste which is currently collected with garden waste? This is also going to be unfair on people who have to take care of a garden whether they want to or not eg rental properties/social housing who are on restricted incomes whilst benefitting those on higher incomes who own period property flats with no garden.,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you charge for garden waste you need to reintroduce food waste collections. This is a mistake and we will find garden waste dumped in our open spaces. You cannot expect to increase the Council Charge and drop key services that are part of the main services that many people get from the Council, don't do this!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	householders already pay for bin collections, you going to charge twice?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I can foresee a bit of pushback on the introduction of charges for garden waste collections tbh.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Point 4. It may be counter productive and price businesses out of WL or indeed business.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Increases to rents would be in line with existing market conditions to ensure the council's commercial property portfolio remains flexible and competitive.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Am I wrong but aren't the council taxes meant to cover most of the above. The people who need all these services can't afford to lay out any more money unless salaries all over start to rise.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	it seems we have to pay more for less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We already pay a lot in council tax for not a great return. To ask for further money is crass.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Is this a joke? Charging for collection of brown bin waste!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste collection will only add to the current problem of gardens with long grass and untended. The introduction of charges for bulkies has caused the problem of household items dumped anywhere and everywhere	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not start charging for brown bin garden waste collection. You should be providing this as part of our council tax services for which we already pay.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Any additional income here should come purely from the commercial sector. Hard pressed households should not be charged for basic waste removal under any circumstances.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Given that food waste is now included in the garden waste collection bins, this should be provided as part of the council tax already paid. While I understand that the council is facing difficulties and needs to reduce its costs, this shouldn't be done by reducing the services that the taxpayer is already paying for. In no business, other than government, can a company get away with providing less while still demanding the same level of pay without repercussions. The other options are reasonable, subject to a robust review and consultation process with affected parties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Given that council tax is rising and services are being cut I'm not sure how appropriate it is to start charging for any kind of refuse collection. I also feel this will lead to more people just dumping organic waste which is a health hazard.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	although feel that charging for household garden waste would be counter intuitive and result in net add costs to Council	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Point 1. Will result in this going into black bins or dumped	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not charge for waste, this will be a disaster.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Household charges for waste is terrible. £25 for 5 items and it can't be wet. You can't change the Scottish weather and if an item is wet then there is no pick up. It's a joke.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not particularly happy about charges for garden waste..Will it be individually or across council tax? But rest seems understandable. Could see if households happy to pay extra £3 year for Christmas decorations if going to charge for garden waste...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Again, a false economy. People are going to be pushed to pay their heating and put food in their mouths and now we have to pay to have the garden waste collected? Both my partner and I work full time and will struggle so how are others going to manage this on top of everything else?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you don't collect garden waste people.will dump.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Start charging for garden waste watch illegal dumping increase. Charge can strapped families more money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The garden collection fee would just see more gardens becoming eyesores! During the current struggles, who in their right mind would pay to get some garden cuttings lifted when they are struggling to either heat their homes or feed their families? Have a word!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	These things will just increase fly tipping and have already been tried elsewhere and failed, when will the council look at other councils and take notice at what has failed. North west England tried charging for garden waste and scrapped this after the first year as it created fly tipping and had very low uptake.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste collection will surely be counteracted by people mixing it with the food waste as currently done via collection so how could council sensibly think it will reduce cost unless you are proposing to reduce these collections which will cost more in pest control in the long run!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do you mean charging for uplifting your brown bin dont think that will go down well with the public its always the public that suffer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste collection will see further illegal dumping (which is evident all over west lothian since council removed there 2 free uplift per year) which will then cost more to clear up than any savings proposed	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not agree with charges for garden waste collect stuff, especially as these are combined with food waste. It will only lead to more of this waste going to landfill.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Consider carefully when charging for waste. This will lead to an increase in fly tipping and move the burden to another council department when they need to go pick it up.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Gardens provide mental health wellbeing, improve the environment so charging people is counter productive as it may force people not to care for their sphere of responsibility, as well as fly tipping Additionally does this now mean you are going to charge for food waste pick up as it is in the same bin. This is not acceptable to charge the customer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste should stay as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging to recycle - food and garden waste isn't useful. You used to provide compost bags from this waste - charge to get them.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing charges for household garden waste will not work as people will refuse to use those bins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Does the exorbitant council tax not cover garden waste removal????	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why start charging for garden waste uplift? This is very shortsighted as irresponsible people will start dumping garden waste rather than pay for it! I also object to paying for garden waste uplift, this should remain part of the council's basic waste collection programme.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You barely collect the household garden waste, charging for it would mean you would actually need to come for it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Household waste charge is punishing people who recycle food waste and keep their gardens tidy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste and food waste are currently disposed of in the same bin, this could result in fly tipping of food waste which would attract vermin. Strongly disagree on charging for garden waste. Possibly reduce frequency of uplift especially in winter months	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People are being hit hard enough, charges for the waste, let's be honest more dumping!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The only comment I would make here is that IF you start to charge for Garden waste collections (which I know some councils do already) then there could be a problem with the food waste which also currently is put into our Brown bins. I can see many people NOT paying for the Garden Waste collection, particularly given the current financial climate and the food waste being dumped, once again in our Grey Bins	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Respondent neither agreed nor disagreed, but has raised concerns that would be considered
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Reducing waste collection may be counterproductive if alternative methods of disposal prove more expensive to deal with. Carbon footprint will rise from more bonfires. Otherwise agree.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't agree with additional charges for household (including garden) waste - this will result in more fly-tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Collection charges for garden waste conflicts with the collection of food waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	A permit system would identify brown bins who have paid for garden collections
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The introduction of household garden waste is ridiculous. I can't stop my grass growing. I didn't plant it. It's already a service that my neighbours struggle to keep up the maintenance of our gardens with in the summer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The garden waste will just get dumped 100% if it's a paid service	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste will just see it dumped all around West Lothian!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We as a household already make several trips to the recycling centre. Garden waste is not so easy to transport.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste is ridiculous. The people that actually care for their garden being penalised, but the ones not giving a toot will no doubt be offered it to be maintained due to complaints from neighbours. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Please will just end up putting their food and garden waste in the grey bin and this will not help the enviroment. PLEASE DO NOT CHARGE	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	DEFINATELY DO NOT CHARGE FOR GARDEN WASTE. We live next to a bit of land that is privately owned and has not been maintained for years. We are looking after it. We have 2 bins we fill each month. (I have tried many times to find the owner but have had no luck. I have paid twice to Land Registry and been given incorrect information. They told me that there is no legal requirement to register as an owner when you buy a piece of land. When I asked for a refund they say no.); ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rent is already high enough and if people are going to be able to look after their garden collection of garden waste needs to remain as it is right now	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why introduce fees for garden waste uplift. This should be part of our council tax. Try cutting top management wages instead. Less chance of unkempt gardens or fly tipping which results in greater costs as council workers are then sent to uplift.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste would lead to fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The introduction of charges for household garden waste would be very unpopular and ultimately counterproductive. What would be the purpose except to make a very small amount of revenue? How would that fit in with current brown bin/ recycling procedures?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The introduction of charges for household garden waste collections should not be introduced unless absolutely necessary. One reason for this view is that it does not work well in other council areas. Furthermore, would this not undermine the current arrangement of collecting compostable household waste along with garden waste. Moreover, would not charging for the collection of garden waste introduce a new administrative burden on the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Certainly in my council tax band I would resent any further charges on top for garden waste collection especially since the vast majority is from leaves from oak trees not in my garden which the council barely maintain. Yet the council won't entertain them being removed either.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We are already paying for bulky uplifts which has led to an increase in fly tipping, charging for garden waste is going to result in even more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Point 2. Economically it will slow down self investment in own property, but the housing market fragility may see a decrease in requests. For sure the big developers should pay.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Maximise income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. Developer contributions to be reviewed in line with guidance when applicable.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Stop approving planning applications that are too large for the areas - the facilities can just manage now. Less planning means you don't have to provide more services at a greater cost. Developers don't provide money to cover it and they make huge profits.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Maximise income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. Developer contributions to be reviewed in line with guidance when applicable.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Services have already been reduced and additional costs have been passed on to people that can not afford to pay for these services. This could lead to for example households disposing of their own garden waste in inappropriate ways.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	By putting up commercial rents you may be cutting off your nose. Many small businesses will be struggling with fuel bills and an increase in rent costs will cause them to close and so cause losses in income as well as putting people out of work.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People are struggling with basic costs. Increasing anything at this time will have a major impact on how people survive.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not agree with the introduction of costs for garden waste collections, people are already struggling, they won't pay and waste will be left or dumped in/around the community	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Unsure where residents would find the money to pay for this as households income are already stretched.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Brown bin collections should not be charged for. The Council enforced the various bins on everyone to encourage recycling. Households had no option to keep their larger black bin for general waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Any charge for rubbish should not be implemented the place is messy enough and overgrown enough	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I totally disagree with being charged for garden waste collections. I use very few Council services and pay full Council Tax (less single person discount), so I'm paying rather a lot of money and getting very little back. The Council turns garden waste into compost, so there is some benefit to the Council in providing this service, and as it is now also collecting food waste in the same bin, how would we recycle our compostable food waste? Charging for the service will increase fly-tipping and is a bad decision environmentally and financially.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not support charges for household garden waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The garden waste collections - i thought this is what we pay council tax for? Or people can take it themselves to a refuse site, or pay for an uplift when needed? Too many changes are made to the refuse system. Too much money wasted on different bins which we use then dont use anymore. Needs a more coherent long term plan.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	It is the case that the Council needs to find ways to save money but still to benefit people who are accessing their services. Of course, therefore keeping the most important services free is, I believe is what the council should be aiming for. There are so many vulnerable people on fixed incomes in West Lothian, so I don't feel that charging these people for collecting garden waste is the right way to go. I believe that this is an essential service as people have no choice but to pay when they cannot afford it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collections is that not included in your Council Tax! Don't think this is right to charge extra for this when already paying for it when you may not necessarily use it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Ridiculous to charge fir garden waste collection after laying council tax- as per above before you introduced new bins (23?3' more then before) why it wasn't costed and planned how the garden waste collection would look like? Do now there are more bins we will start keying to get them collected? What a joke.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	if you start to charge for garden waste i think you will spend even more on fly tipping. People should pay to leese a property	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections - No. This was proposed before and then dumped after public outcry.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We should not have to pay for garden waste to be collected. You should encourage gardening for the benefits it gives people. You should look into using the garden waste to create compost.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collections should not be charged for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections will result in more fly tipping or more people leaving waste in their garden/not maintaining their garden and an increase of pests e.g. rats.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collections should not be charged for, this is why I pay my council tax... It is a necessary job and is the only way that estates will remain in a reasonable condition.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste will mount up as people will not be able to afford to pay for the collections	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste feels punitive to me bearing in mind it is the only service I use regularly, maybe move green and blue bins to less regular collection. After all cost are going up and maybe people will buy and therefore discard less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	AGAINST CHARGING FOR GARDEN WASTE ,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As an employee who monitors garden maintenance, I have enough trouble getting gardens maintained. If we start charging for brown bin emptying this may lead to more neglect.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household garden waste is a bad idea that'll end up in flytipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increased fly; Tipping if waste collection reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed introduction of a charge would not impact on collections. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for removal of garden waste and reviewing rents/fees is interesting...where are people supposed to be getting this money from because they already can't keep their homes warm.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Many struggle already with the cost of waste collections.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden household waste should not go ahead. It will not raise any significant amount on income. And the drawbacks are costly: households will dispose of their waste in an unmanaged and probably unlawful way, and it will change the people's perception of West Lothian as a green, environmentally aware council	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge the public to recycle but help the council meet their target, sorry no! Increase fee and rents but no at the moment due to the current climate. The people who rent from the council are some of the poorest paid so no to any increases	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This proposal is focused on non residential buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Changing for garden waste i dont u derstand. It will encourage scruffy gardens and some are scruffy enough.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste services in the current climate would be yet another blow to people who are already being financially stretched to the max.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for household garden waste wouldn't be good, you'll wind up with far more fly tipping, or people paving the gardens and Astro turf which would be further disaster for the plant.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Again, if the Council is serious about the environment/climate, it should not introduce charges for household garden waste collections. This could also lead to an increase in fly-tipping, which would have a net negative impact on West Lothian as a place to live. There could also be a risk to wildlife and public safety if people turn to bonfires to dispose of household garden waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't charge households more when we're already stretched.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Totally against a charge for garden waste, Edinburgh is awful as a result, keep West Lothian looking great. Instead how about reduced collections and opportunities to take extra to recycling centres. Also our food waste goes in the same bin after much investment so would that be reversed?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not think the introduction of charges for garden waste is a good idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I'm paying community charge.. I'm not paying for garden waste to be uplifted? Used to get 3 uplifts a year.. now none..	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	introduction of charges for household garden waste will lead to an increase in fly tipping and people burning their own garden waste. The latter is really not desirable as this will contribute to huge CO2 emission.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People will just fly-tip garden waste or put this in their general waste bin rather than pay. Food waste will still need to be collected, so the saving isn't really worth it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you remove the free garden waste collection most people will simply put it in their landfill bin	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	When you withdraw garden refuse services you are once more inviting people to dump their garden rubbish in and around WL. More rubbish to join the already increasing littering and fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections - this will just lead to people burning their waste and increase the amount of pollution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree with garden waste	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All the measure sound good apart from the garden waste charges not least because composting is rolled into brown bin collection. If you want people to recycle and reuse a charge for uplift is not brilliant and will act as a disincentive, especially penalising poorer householders.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste is another unfair cost on anyone who has a garden.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household garden waste will lead to greater volumes of waste in grey bins or fly tipping. It is an essential part of our recycling programme. Garden and food waste together was a wise move for the brown bin and should not be changed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Tax payers already pay to have their garden waste uplifted so why be charged an additional fee? As no doubt council tax rates will keep increasing so that should cover garden waste. Putting rent fees up for commercial business is going to end up resulting in businesses closing down costs are going up to high everywhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing fees at a time when families are struggling with high food and heating bills seems unfair	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you charge for garden waste collection I imagine people would just dump it. I certainly wouldn't pay for it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	West Lothian doesn't offer very much it sold everything and expects everything to be run privately. Our garden waste goes with our food so don't bother and our rents have been shooting up while you sell all our green space.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging a fee to collect certain waste will make people plan and utilise the system better. Not sure how that would work however now that the green food bin goes into the brown bin and if you charge people for that they will simply start dumping food waste in other bins and contaminate the recycling or fly tipping will increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge for garden waste..ridiculous idea!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Currently brown bins are being used for garden waste and food waste, would this mean another bin for garden waste? Or would the rules change again where good waste goes in the black bin? If proposing a charge for the garden waste collection, and not emptied, this could cause an increase of fly tipping, rodent/pest problems and also disgusting smells (especially during hot weather)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Bins containing food only would continue to be collected
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	That will make people to put artificial grass or stones in their garden. Not a great idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Care needs to be taken with garden refuse etc as council tax payments are thought to cover this and we need to keep community spirit intact.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We need ti encourage recycling, not put up barriers	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	So more fly tipping!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	These services need to be delivered efficiently before you can start changing people for them. I'd be more than happy to pay for excess household garden waste collections if the primary service was provided to a reasonable standard.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposal would be a charge for garden waste, not just excess
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Paying for garden waste? We should be able to have garden waste uplifted when we are paying council tax!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges will lead to people setting fire to garden rubbish, leaving grass cuttings in the street, dumping things in nearby ground. It will cost the council more in the long run. It is unfair when people pay council tax to say if you look after that property like cutting grass and cleaning up leaves you will need to pay for it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No to charging for household waste. Interesting you've said garden waste - would this mean separating out our food waste again???? Anything that reduces the likelihood of people doing effective recycling is a bad idea. If you want to charge why not charge for people to use recycling centres to try and change the throwaway culture.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The brown bins would still be used for food waste only. A coloured permit would identify properties who had paid for the garden element of the collection
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Already paid in the aforementioned exorbitant tax rates and business rates , they're eye watering	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People will not pay to have their garden waste removed. Instead, how about charging a fee for the compost made with the garden refuse?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Garden waste composting is carried out by the contractor who determines end markets for the composted material
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing charge for garden waste will just lead to more fly tipping. It's combined with food waste anyway so totally unnecessary.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Absolute no to charges for household garden waste. This bin is also used for food waste currently, if a payment is required low income families would be penalised and we would have huge issues with vermin.; All other ideas listed appear feasible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not agree with charging residents for household garden waste collections as this will lead to either fly tipping or people giving up on keeping their gardens tidy. Surely our current council tax covers this service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste will likely be counterproductive as people will put food and green waste into landfill. Which will cost you more in the longer term. One solution could be to partner with a composting provider who can help people home compost or community compost. The big problem is pests (flies or vermin).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You already charge for bulky uplift.... If you charge for garden uplift, you will see people with over grown messy gardens, will devalue property values. What are WLC thinking of!!!! Shocking	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There should be no additional fees for individual developers for improving a home.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I wouldn't support charging for the uplift household garden waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste/food collection should not be paid for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't agree with charging for household garden waste. We have been asked to put food waste in this bin for recycling. If there was a charge the amount of recycling would be greatly reduced. Garden and food wanted would be added to the grey bin as general waste and W/L council would go down ratings for recycling.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't really agree with charging to remove garden waste. This should be included in our council tax. By charging for this, you run an increased risk of garden waste being dumped in inappropriate places. This may result in costing more than providing the current service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Strongly against any charge for garden waste collection. This would lead to many people stopping looking after gardens and West Lothian becoming an eyesore. It would lead to arguments with neighbors who make an effort and pay fees having people next door letting their garden over grow.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste would unfortunately result in people dumping it. Same mentality as people doing whatever they could to get rid of rubbish during the e bin strike. Recycling goes out of the window for many as soon as convenience is affected or if it involves paying more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	garden waste should NEVER be a chargeable service for residents, this is counterintuitive to tackling climate change, and goes against your other policies. This should never have made into this section. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for the garden waste collection, what are people supposed to do with the garden waste.....fly tip it??	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	All of the above is just privatisation through the back door. I would be against all you have stated here.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I say no to introducing fees to empty garden waste as this would mean households being charged for waste food collection as they are both in the same bin !!; The rest of your ideas are likely to leave town centres empty causing more traffic on road to out of town shopping centres and the elderly having to make more journeys by bus as unable to buy locally or carry more than 1-2 days worth of food at a time !!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The introduction of charges for household garden waste collections should be avoided, this has led to an increasing incident of tipping in Edinburgh.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Any charges should be free for benefit recipients.; Please make it easy to do the right thing ie don't charge for waste collection.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Waste collection is the bare minimum that the council should be providing, and core elements of services should not be subject to additional charges. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you introduce a fee for any waste collection people will just dump it. I cannot believe that you want to charge more for the council services while getting rid of half of them.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't think charging for garden waste is a good idea . People will end up putting garden waste in other bins as this is what happens in Midlothian Council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for collections when we already pay council tax is ridiculous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not agree with charging for house hold garden waste collection. This should be covered through council tax charges.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You cannot charge more for collection of ANY household waste, especially when you use that waste to turn into compost and sell it at a profit. Council Tax is already high enough. Please remember a lot of the people you will charge are already experiencing financial hardship, especially those ex Council employees who were paid off to reduce costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think all bin collections should be funded by the council and this should not be a charge,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Any charges for removal of household waste (green or otherwise) will result if fly tipping which I believe will ultimately increase costs. This is a big no no for me.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Leave things as they are! - Crippling small businesses or increasing the amount of material that WILL be fly-tipped is NO answer! _ As for this rubbish about effectively 'privatising' public assets; - Whose 'pals' will be getting their nose in the trough???	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The only comment here would be Gardens will end up untidy and unkempt as people will not be willing to pay for this service if anything like the uplift charges have shown	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	When I pay such a high cost for council tax and the only thing I feel the benefit of each week is waste collection, I cannot support charges for household waste collection. I live in a rural area, where fly-tipping has increased significantly in the last two years. This creates a stronger argument against additional charges. When ordinary people are pressed to eat or eat, they will just dump their rubbish rather than pay for it to be collected. The level of rubbish in our country is already at a shameful level compared to other European nations, why are we even considering options that will make littering even worse.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As food waste goes in the brown bin the first brown bin has to be free (or food waste will just go to landfill, which is unacceptable). But it would be fair to charge for every bin over and above the first. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If there is a plan to increase council tax then I dont agree to additional charges for the above services	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No charges for household waste (charges could encourage fly-tipping and be a danger to public health).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you decide to charge for garden collection you have to provide for households to dispose of their waste at recycling centres and that will need increased opening hours and decent lifting and handling kit for households to transport the waste through their own transport (thereby increasing emissions) . The alternative is that households will also start to incinerate more garden waste, further increasing emissions. One thing for sure, the Council's existing investment in collection bins will be wasted. ; Otherwise no comment on the property income generation proposals but there will be a commercial ceiling on tariffs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Household garden waste should be collected for free	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No need to charge for garden waste collection. This should be covered through council tax and waste collection services. This will only result in more fly tipping. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collection charges will result in such waste being put into other bins and fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste will result in more fly tipping. People can't afford to eat so why would they prioritise paying for garden waste to be collected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of rents and fees for the council's commercial properties - More fleecing the people and business's (which will put up prices and/or the business's will leave as a result, therefore causing unemployment)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease facilities to a commercial operator, social enterprise or franchise - Privatise our services?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of fees for planning advisory services and to maximise developer contributions - Ahh, more of fleecing the people?;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I disagree with charges for household garden waste collection. Especially while it is integrated with food waste collection and at a time when families are already struggling financially. This will increase fly tipping and disproportionately affect the poorer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Entirely against charging for garden waste collection. The fly tipping and litter problem in West Lothian is terrible as is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't see how you can bring in charges for household garden waste when it is also the food waste collection? I think that is unfair, and not distinguishable from Garden waste easily. All properties need food waste whether they have a garden or not, I don't think going back to small food caddies that blow away every week is the answer. I think it's a good idea to charge groups and social enterprises a nominal amount for use of space.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for recycling, ie brown bins is,for want of a better word, dumb. It sends out the wrong message about recycling and will increase fly tipping causing additional costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not happy about charging for garden waste as this would lead to MORE untidy properties throughout county but happy with other proposals	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If the council introduces a fee for garden waste collection I am sure that this will lead to further fly tipping - not a good idea.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Costs for waste collections should be included in council tax and not in addition to.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	School lets would become unattainable for already social enterprises and groups which would erode community links and I do not agree with this proposal - this would result in less funded clubs being forced to close and LIKELY to be in more deprived areas.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Any proposed increase in rents would be for the commercial property portfolio. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We pay rates for these things why should we pay twice	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Planning advisory services are already expensive.; Don't agree with charging people to uplift garden waste; The others are fine	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not keen on being charged more- could the council. To increase not cover the bins. Worries that people will just but rubbish in the grey bin!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We already pay council tax so we should not have to pay for collections.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not support fee for garden waste	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not agree with the charges for household garden waste collection.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Dont charge council users for garden waste (that's silly) the council should rent business space to more companies (make more affordable, attractive business spaces)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree with increasing fees for planning services. These shouldn't be charged for at all, Council/SG set standards and hold the resident to ransom to do changes to their properties. For large developments then yes I agree, but not for the general WL resident no.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	None of these are acceptable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not agree with this people like me who live on our own with no partner and only one wage coming in each month can't afford this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Nope	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I disagree with all these proposals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not happy with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree strongly to a charge for garden waste, other proposals seem sensible	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections - this will lead to fly tipping;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections - this will lead to fly tipping;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As mentioned on a previous comment, any charges on bins regardless of what waste it is - will result in more fly tipping, which costs you more in other areas, that makes no sense from a business viewpoint!!; The rest is fine	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Please do not charge for garden waste collections. This will have even more of an impact on the environment as more people will slab their gardens and this will have a negative effect on birds and wildlife. It will also encourage more people to install horrible artificial grass, which is not recyclable in anyway, does not encourage bees or insects and has a terrible impact on the environment when people wish to get rid of it, as it is not compostable and cannot be recycled in any capacity.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging to take away my garden waste - bad!; I live in a street with many pensioners. They love their gardens. Keep them beautiful. Can't see them hauling the autumn leaves and summer grass cuttings on the recently-cancelled bus to the 'restructured' recycling centre without a few of them coming to a mischief. Never mind.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste will be dumped on waste land thus requiring councils to send vehicles to 'clean up; which will cost more in the long run	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think the people of West Lothian have lost a lot of services recently and I don't think a charge for the garden waste would be welcomed. I think this would cause more poorly kept gardens in the area, more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not agree with charging for garden waste, this should be covered through Council tax payments.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not agree with proposed charges for collection on household garden waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste collection will lead to garden waste being put into landfill.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	An introduction of a charge for any garden or household waste collection will be devastating for the area as people will just fly tip. People will not pay for this service so will dump their rubbish.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I fear charging for uplift of garden waste would encourage fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for disposal of household garden waste will result in an increase in fly-tipping. With the increasing cost of vehicle fuel I think twice now before driving to the other end of the town to dispose of waste since our local depot was closed down.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Does this also mean a charge for food waste collections as this is put in the same bin as garden waste? If so I hope you are increasing the pest control budget as this will just attract even more vermin than it already does. Also, people will then just add this waste to other bins resulting in the recycling being contaminated. If you will not be collecting my garden waste then I will expect a reduction in my council tax bill.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Food waste would still be collected free of charge
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging people for household waste could potentially cause more fly tipping. A nominal fee would perhaps be acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	In relation to charges for garden waste...this will only encourage more fly tipping. I am co founder of Winchburgh wombles litter picking and the amount of garden waste fly tipping is bad enough as the moment. ; Fees are quite expensive already...May encourage families to live in homes that are not fit for their purpose..cant afford to move or expand	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You will find if you start charging for brown bins many people will just use grey bin for food waste. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Will the introduction of fees for garden waste not also include food waste as this is currently combined?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree with charging for garden waste. Would this result in a further receptacle? as our food waste goes in the same bin I think there will be meltdown in WL with the need for yet another bin for food waste. As the majority of WL residents appear to think that bin collections are the only thing they actually get from the council for their council tax payments (I know this is not the case)	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing garden waste charges would result in people using their black bins, I disagree with this.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing a charge for collection of garden waste could lead to people not maintaining their gardens, dumping elsewhere or putting in their normal waste, I don't think it is a good idea, not to mention the admin involved and collectors knowing which property has paid and which hasn't.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you want West Lothian to become a jungle go ahead and charge fees for garden uplifts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Brown bins should not be charged for. This could be recycled and sold. If a charge is made food waste will go back in the black bin and garden spoil will be dumped.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collection charges will result in further issues within communities where tenants/owners choose not to maintain their gardens. Also could result in fly tipping which would have an adverse effect on budgets!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't think that it is fair to charge for garden waste collections as this is now with the organic collection which already gives some problems. This is already included in the council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People will generally not pay for garden waste collection and dump it somewhere unsuitable they already do	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We cannot possibly charge for garden waste collections when you already charged it so food waste was placed in the same bin. I suggest it may take more investment to introduce a new garden waste only bin.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Unfair to charge for garden waste uplifts. People will either neglect their gardens or put the waste in the general bins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Whilst I appreciate we need to introduce charges I suspect that charging for the uplift of garden service will increase fly tipping within the County	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I completely disagree with the introduction of waste charges for garden waste, the people of West Lothian already have a large number of bins that they have to manage, separating waste and putting out differing bins each week. If we start to charge for garden waste we may put off people growing their own veg etc. which is counterproductive to carbon reduction, I strongly believe this one item will also lead to an increase in fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No - you are a publicly funded body to provide services. The problem I have with this is paying taxes already. Council track record to administer extra revenue should not be core and, let face it, the council's ability and track record to cost effectively administer the same is appalling. What %age of extra monies raised will go towards extra administration? I think we all want to see more transparency of tax and certainly not give more tax raising powers to local government which revenues will sink into a black hole	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think rents for commercial properties should not increase. Many are small businesses with slim margins. It could lead to empty units.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I object in the strongest terms to charging for brown bin collection. This is what we pay our council tax bill for in the first place. Charging will result in even more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No to fees for brown bin collection but could be paid for uplifts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Stop giving so much to those who aren't paying for it and look at the neglected interests of those who are paying. All four of those ideas are just taking more from people and companies who are paying so we can give more to those who aren't. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections will be another opportunity to create a greater divide between those who have and those who have not. I thought WLC promote equality and equity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	NO;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Cost of living is bad and now you are wanting to charge residents more for services that are essential?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for brown bin collections would lead go an increase in dumped rubbish and burning of garden waste. People not using brown bins also does not build the habit of recycling and would lead to people using their other recycling bins less.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collection should be free	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would be very against charging for household waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing charges for household garden waste collections will have an effect on recycling centre for those who do not wish to use the service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Waste collections are already included in council tax	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste is waste, unfair charging for that.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't introduce garden waste fees, it seems to be cost ineffective and will only lead to people using others bins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household garden waste collections will only encourage people to dump their waste, this is the most difficult waste to transport to a recycling centre!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There should be no charges for collection of garden waste, given this was introduced as a recycling measure by the council itself many years ago. This would only be back tracking on a previous agenda, with residents already paying enough council tax with the right to get this collected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing charges for household garden waste collections would probably result in even more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you are going to charge to remove my garden waste then surely my council tax will be reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge for garden waste will lead to more folk disposing of this in grey bin and fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Again this will just encourage people to dump their waste rather than pay to have it collected.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	EXCEPT household garden waste collection. This will result in flytipping and the food waste is collected in this bin which will encourage vermin.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging fir garden waste collection will end up with more fly tipping and more bills in the ling run.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't agree households should be hit with another charge. That's what the community tax is for. This will only encourage people to dump their garden waste on any open area they find.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	With regards to the suggestion above about garden waste charges, I'm unclear if there would be any short and medium term benefit to WLC but rather cost (new contracts, collections, bins, advertising & behavioural change education). I'd also question if it would lead to folk getting rid of greenery, with a cumulative negative impact on biodiversity, surface flooding and wellbeing?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The costs of implementing the service would be borne by the charge related to the service

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden Waste Collection should not be charged for as we already pay for it through our council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Are you mental charging for household waste is absolutely diabolical. Adding charges for bulk uplift has already increased fly tipping!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste l'll lead to WLC streets looking untidy/messy with some people dumping this on the streets or in public Arras.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Against the introduction of fees for garden waste collection as it creates division between neighbours. It may encourage some people to bypass charges by depositing waste in someone else's bin or by just dumping waste along country roads.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Per my previous comment, charging for waste collections is likely to result in increased fly tipping and risks to public health.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collections are not a target for revenue, we pay a large sum in council tax and any attempt to charge us for a basic service will result in fly tipping and unhappy electors.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If so food waste is likely to be placed in general waste bin which will increase landfill charges for the council. In addition, charges will likely mean an increase in flytipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Any charge for emptying bins will only encourage/increase fly tipping and inappropriate use of other bins leading to spoiled lorry loads of recyclable waste. Look at what happened when you decided to charge at recycling centres a few years ago ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collection charges will lead to even more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Will garden waste charges result in increased fly tipping?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household garden waste, which now includes food waste, would surely mean that people would put garden and food waste in their household bin therefore going to landfill if they felt they couldn't afford to pay for garden waste uplift	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections will be another opportunity to create a greater divide between those who have and those who have not. I thought WLC promote equality and equity.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not in agreement with garden waste charges	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People should be encouraged to recycle so dont agree with charges for garden waste	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	An introduction of charges to remove waste will see more fly tipping and fires being set - not everyone can afford to pay this!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not agree with charges for garden household waste collection.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH CHARGING FOR BROWN BIN REFUSE CHARGES. THIS IS A PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUE AS THE BROWN BIN IS OUR ONLY MEANS OF DISPOSING OF FOOD WASTE. ALSO REFUSE REMOVAL IS ALREADY INCLUDED WITHIN THE COUNCIL TAX	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No to anything that results in fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	This would lead to more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not happy to pay extra for garden waste collection.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Against charging for waste collections	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree with charging for brown bin uplift.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No changes recommended in this field. Do not put extra burden on people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Should not bring in fees for getting rid of rubbish - not a good idea at all again this will encourage fly tipping.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Seriously? Reducing services, removing concessions, reducing public transport and now garden refuse?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	i do not support the introduction of charges for household garden waste. the council has already stopped the collection of the food caddies. this is with garden waste now. changes to the bin (Green/Blue) whilst save the council money and maximize the value in waste/scrap the effect is felt by the customer. if more changes come to waste collection i would request this aspect is taken off my council bill and i will take my waste to the CRC. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you charge for garden wast collection I will just put this in the black bin so it will cost you money. Might even hid it In The bottom of the blue one. So if you want to have fun. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing a fee for garden waste would encourage residents to neglect their gardens and would have an overall effect on neighbourhoods, there will be grass strewn everywhere and bags dumped throughout west lothian. What will happen to food waste if that is normally put in the same bin as garden waste - would there then be funds spent on reintroducing food caddys again?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't think garden waste should be charged for as food waste also goes in the brown bin. If you charge for garden waste collection then people would not recycle	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why do I pay council tax if my brown bin will then be charged? That's insane. As usual, people will just dump what you don't collect or contaminate bins. This is a mental idea	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for waste collection will result in it all going to landfill. Not very green/environmental.Charging companies for council services seems good, as they sem to make alot of profit from their work. Putting up rents/fees in the current commercial environment may not be good, as it make be the final straw that put some under.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden household ,never , take all and composting ,Falkirk and yourselves already do , charge ,cheeper , high fees for developers as this is not a city but an area of adventure , less fees mean more business ,means more income not rocket science , and well if you want a lot more money in business is key and so is fees.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not a good idea. You could introduce a restriction to the amount of visits to the tip with the opportunity to by extra visits. But also in this case that may notbe the best idea ever.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fees on any kind of waste are a bad idea. This will cause increased illegal tipping and tension between neighbours and council.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Dealing with many customers who are also struggling to make ends meet I doubt this will bring in much income and lead to more shops closing, waste in streets and services going unused.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges may lead to more fly tipping in the county that the council will ultimately have to clear up at an extra cost	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I m strongly opposed to making charges for household garden waste. I only put my green and blue bins out occasionally but I do rely on having my garden waste removed. ; if you add a charge it means I will be subsidising the removal of waste from households with large families and then paying for my garden waste to be removed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections: - No the reason what would then happen to the recycling of food waste.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't think you should start charging for lifting brown bins (garden waste) as this is also food waste and this service has already been cut. I personally only get my brown bin emptied once per year as I put my food waste in the grey bin and only have a small garden so I would be getting charged for a service I don't always use. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No charges to household waste should be added. Increase charges for commercial housing developers to pay into community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	garden waste charges will add to illegal dumping. increase fees when the country is in a in the state it is will reduce planning services reduce leases and commercial properties will remain empty.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for household garden waste might encourage fly tipping which was a great problem during lockdown.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Cannot start charging for garden waste collections as we got rid of the food caddys and legally food cannot be sent to landfill. If you look to restart the food collection service then really how much savings are being made by charging for garden collection.;;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The charging for ny regular uplift of refuse I not acceptable to LLBCC. Anything that affects the advice available around planning is also unacceptable to LLBCC. We have an ongoing battle with developers who need no weakening off the barriers to their rapacious approach to our community.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council will continue to deliver statutory planning functions that meet the requirements of planning legislation. The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	LLBCC would have a substantial concern over the WLC approach to maximising fees from developers. That process is one that LLBCC already has substantial issues with around the allocation of the income. The approach of WLC that the monies are used for the benefit of the local community, that being the whole of WWLC area is not one LLBCC accepts as reasonable. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council will continue to deliver statutory planning functions that meet the requirements of planning legislation. The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure. Use of contributions is determined by legal agreement.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't agree that payment is asked for for basic garden waste collection although extra perhaps could be charged for	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increased rents and fees for commercial property also seems to be penalising the people trying to make the area better. Small business already pays an extraordinary amount for business rates this will only push businesses to close, leaving the council with less income.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. Non domestic rates are determined by the Scottish Government.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I've always felt it's just a matter of time before you's charge for collection of house hold garden waste. Personally I wouldn't pay for this service to me this is already covered under the council tax it's like another stealth tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	do not introduce charges for household garden waste collections. Being charged for gardening is ludicrous	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste collection is only going to increase the fly tipping in the area that the council can already not control.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste collection might lead to increased fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	WLC has one of the best authority refuse collection - wouldn't like to see it cut	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Again, disappointing that council tax is paid but extra charges will be made for garden waste, with the reduction in Recycling facilities this will leave dumping grounds a potential	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I already pay council tax for bin collections - surely the garden waste collection is included in that ? Are you going to penalise for people who take pride in their garden ? bonkers !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There should not be any charge on people for their garden waste as their payment to council tax should be covering it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We hear alot about how the public sector should look at business for inspiration, but charging to use garden waste bins is hardly inspiring.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If a charge for uplift of garden waste will force people to flytip	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	garden waste charging - will people pay & if not, what do they do with their brown bin waste? Does it not get put in general waste & thus cause problems? Light not generate much income but cause a big cost. What has councils that have adopted, such as Edinburgh, seen happen. Will it result in flytipping?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	How can you charge for garden waste when it is mixed with food waste. It will just mean food waste put in grey bucket landfill. Don't do a knee jerk policy without looking at the implications of that policy.; If leasing means not available for communities unless they pay no.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Bad idea all around. What will the place look like with dumped garden waste everywhere because that's what will happen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste? Such as grass? Honestly if you charge for this people will not pay/use the system and youll find things being dumped	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste is a ridiculous idea and will not be supported	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Waste charges will encourage dumping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There's already a problem with people fly tipping garden waste in woodland areas, changing the ecosystem and making it look a mess. This will likely increase if a charge is brought in. If I'm charged for garden waste collections, I'll just dump it in with the general waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you do that it will lead to more folly tipping like it did when you increased charges for bulk uplifts	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing fees for household garden collections could lead to other costly problems to resolve, e.g. an increase in fly tipping or cross -contamination of household waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Absolutely not for the brown bin.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Absolutely ridiculous to charge for garden waste removal. I already have to cart glass recycling to the centres because this isn't provided but now I'll end up having to cart garden waate with me too	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Totally against the proposal for collection of garden waste. This should be one of your main priorities for free.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree to waste charged bins should be emptied for all or why do we have council tax ; ; Agree with others ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for brown bin to be emptied will lead to more households putting garden waste into existing bins instead to avoid the charge.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I feel the charging for garden waste is unfair, My garden has artificial grass and very little plants.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not introduce fees for garden waste, there will be more dumping as a result, this reverses green promises and will result in environmental harm people are tasked with cleaning up leaves from council trees and properties and this is the least they could do.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't think you should introduce charges for garden waste as people will just put the rubbish in black bins. Also, government policy to minimise waste going to landfill. Wouldn't have thought it would generate much. Yes, developers should be paying more given the profit they make on houses, should be linked to the level of profit and might also keep prices down (or lower them).	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We pay a lot in council tax already for ever reduced services.; No way can u charge for garden waste, what an absolute disgrace, especially in these times where everyone is struggling to pay for basic bills.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections - I feel very strongly that this should not be introduced in West Lothian. While I recognise that it has already been introduced in other LA areas such as Edinburgh, to introduce it in a more rural/more green area such as ours would not be fair. Myself and many others routinely fill our brown bins not with our own waste, but with leaves that have fallen into our gardens from *council-owned* trees. The people of Edinburgh, for the most part, do not face this issue. If people don't have the choice of removing these trees (which I'm absolutely not saying they should) then they should not be charged for the means to dispose of the fallen leaves and branches which fall on their private property. On top of this I also have serious concerns in terms of what this would mean for food waste collection - would we be reverting back to kerbside collections for this, or will people just start putting it in their grey bins again? There's no way that a household would opt to pay a brown bin fee for food waste alone and it just seems so misguided and backwards to be removing recycling options in the face of current climate change issues. Please re-think this measure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I can't agree with an introduction of fees to uplift residential waste, staying in a flatted property the council refuse point blank to supply me with anything other than a tiny black bin that they then uplift every week. My plea for blue/green bins fell on deaf ears despite the fact I am a ground floor property & keep the bins in my garden. Any changes to household waste/uplifts has already resulted in an increase in fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	no , the garden waste collection is already part of our current council tax , changing that again people are goign to have a issues with misappropriation and arbitrary cost changes to council tax especially after a long time not picking up the rubbish.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You should always maximise income but not against services that are paid for already. Waste services should not attract extra. Rethink	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Raising rents...no! ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for uplifting garden waste is likely to result in more fly tipping so I don't think this is a good idea. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste discriminates against those in financial difficulty or without a car. Ultimately, some people will end up putting garden waste in the main bin.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	It would be unfair to charge for garden waste as most of our garden waste comes from leaves in adjacent public spaces. We do have a garden but no grass.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste would be provided as part of our council tax. £230 a month is sent to the council and a basic requirement is for bins to be emptied.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	A fee for household garden waste collections will result in increased fly tipping and overgrowth. There are residents who cut grass on council land for child safety who have to dispose of this grass in their own household bins because the council do not cut the grass and when they do, they leave the cuttings to blow all over the road instead of collecting and disposing of it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	House hold garden waste should not be chargeable. My garden accumulates several bin fulls of leaves every year blown into my garden from surrounding woodlands which are not on my property and belong to the council or other developments. I don't see why I should be penalised for the clearance of these when being done in an environmentally friendly way	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not charge to empty bins. This will do nothing but encourage fly tipping. What a ridiculous idea. This is what we pay council tax for.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Any change to refuse collection just results in more fly typing, please do not charge for garden waste. Instead make compost and sell it?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	1. Fly tipping will increase - the council will then need to spend money clearing up the mess - a lose/lose situation I would think	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	introducing extra for waste collection i would disagree with. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of fees to cover household garden waste will result in increased fly tipping and littering. Currently the council os struggling to keep up with this, relying on community volunteers. In this financial year we have already had an increase in council tax, further increases are unsustainable for households in the current cost of living crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. The council is not relying on volunteers but people wish to improve their local environment by volunteering.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why not charge us for breathing in the community, or is that next , we pay already for services such as emptying bins and half of the time they are not being emptied.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	This sound like just passing the cost on to the service users who can't afford it. Charging for refuse uplift will only lead to an increase in fly tipping for sure	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Please do not introduce charges for garden waste. It will lead to more fly tipping. Look at the council tax charges for residential properties-they are outdated in relation to what the property is worth.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't agree with charging extra for collection of garden waste. ; Are commercial let's I line with other averages?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Commercial rents are typically lower than those from private landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No charge for garden waste uplift	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rent to commercial property and garden waste should NOT be considered	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Commercial rents are typically lower than those from private landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As I maintain the grassy areas around my house, I use several brown bins. We don't have a company that still maintains these public areas. I would certainly not be willing to pay for brown bin emptying. Tha public areas can become an eyesore in this case.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Commercial rents are typically lower than those from private landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't agree with charges for garden waste it would stop people recycling	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Commercial rents are typically lower than those from private landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste charges should be included with council tax. Start charging extra + proposed cuts to waste recycling centres will see vast increase in fly tipping costing WLC far mor than any savings and possible revenue	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waster pick up will likely result in dumping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Of the above proposals, charging for household garden waste collection is the least attractive. Not only will this hit households, particularly vulnerable ones, already impacted by cost of living increases across the board, it is also likely to lead to fly tipping and people exploring alternative means to dispose of waste. As household garden waste collections also include food waste, this will result in a greater proportion of food waste going to landfill rather than being made good use of.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household garden waste collections means charging for food waste collections too. We have enough fly-tipped waste. The introduction of a fee for disposal of garden waste will result in more garden fires and an increase in air pollution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you introduce charges for garden waste you can deduct this from the council tax we pay and remove the travel restriction on the forms of transport we can use to take waste to the recycling centers. You cant eat your cake and keep it. I every autumn I have 6 weeks worth of tree foliage (not even my trees) which accumulates, council doesnt sweep the cul de sac so I do it. Cleaning the drain grills in the process to avoid flooding. Perhaps council needs to be more transparent on where all the money gets spent on such things because it sure as hell isn't in our area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	To be honest getting our waste collected is the one thing where I believe the council should cover this, ri charge for this is a joke	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Should not be introduce any charge for garden waste collection separately . It should cover from council tax . ; Should increase rent and some well earning people also taking lower rent benefit . Should be reviewed on regular basis e.g every year . Should provide a income threshold to get lower rent benefit . Higher income people should pay based on market rent basis .e.g three bedroom property's rental value should be average 800pcm . Pensioner and low earning people should get priorities ; ; Good idea to increase other fees and should be reviewed on regular basis and fess adjust with inflation rate	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If WLC are trying to encourage improved biodiverse environments in West Lothian then adding a charge for garden waste removal may push people to pave over gardens and cut down hedges, trees and bushes to cut their costs. ; This would reduce the number of green spaces with plants, shrubs and trees, and impact on the ability to create biodiverse environments for birds, pollinators, small mammals and reptiles. If WLC are also trying to reduce car use then forcing people to transport their own garden waste to a council recycling centre would also increase carbon emissions. It also disadvantages those with no transport who wish to have a garden. Waste from larger trees and bushes cannot be put into personal composting bins and needs to be broken down/chipped by commercial machines. ; In our current climate crisis removing a service which supports people maintaining garden/green spaces which includes trees, shrubs and flowering plants would go against the ethos behind some of the COP26 agreements made in Glasgow last year. I strongly believe this should not be a paid service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We should not be charged for garden waste collection	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People will simple cease using the brown bin and dump garden waste wherever. Are you planning to provide larger black bins again or are we all going to suffer from rat infestations? ; As for planning: The service is atrocious. No pre-planning services, dubious and inconsistent decisions and councillors and committees with personal interests and agendas. I would suggest firing and replacing the lot.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not agree with introducing charges for household garden waste collection.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	please dont charge for household garden waste collections. Recycling rates will reduce with stuff being put in black bins or dumped. Can the council not sell the resultant compost made from garden waste?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste collection would encourage people to not tend their gardens or dump the waste elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I'd feel extremely aggrieved at having to pay for the uplift of my garden waste when the vast majority of the contents of my garden bin is leaves from trees that don't even belong to my garden.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing a charge for garden waste collection will increase flytipping. This will also impact on food waste recycling, leading to an increased carbon footprint for many.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not increase charges to subsidise outsourcing of services. If a charge was for garden waste this again would encourage fly tipping and cost mote in the longer term	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The introduction of charges for household garden waste would surely just result in residents dumping garden waste in surrounding areas. To me this would raise concerns about pest control and what effect the waste would have on the surrounding areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	oppose the idea of charges for garden waste particularly as its integrated with waste food ; ; look for opportunities to increase income by selling services to individuals or organisations or other councils	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Reducing waste collection will increase fly tipping - refuse collection is a core Council service,; ; Otherwise, agree.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. Garden waste collection is one of the areas where it is determined that councils can charge as it is an additional waste collection service.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rents and council tax are dear enough both of us work don't drink smoke or so drugs and struggle ; Why should there be an introduction for waste and garden collection	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	don't lease as the service will worsen. review rents but don't put people off buildings	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People needing advice should be a free service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	This proposal relates to planning applications. The council continues to provide the free Advice Shop through the Anti-Poverty Service.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	In current climate it would be difficult to pay more as my budget like councils is stretched to it limit	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Wr pay council tax.. why do we need to pay for a service already up and running...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People don't have the money to pay anymore	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No increase on rent or house tax as we pay to much for far to little as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fees and rates of council commercial properties are killing the high street, small family run businesses cannot afford increases on top of energy price increases and reduction in service. Evident in every area of West Lothian you visit - the highstreet is dead and full of shuttered buildings. Takeaways and beauty salons are over running the area and generally lasting 2-3 years before being replaced by the next takeaway venture.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. Council owned shops have high occupancy. Empty units tend to belong to private landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't know	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household garden waste collections sounds silly as we all just got new bins to put our food waste in with it. If people are to be encouraged to recycle food and garden waste it should be free	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If we charge for garden waste what happens with food waste	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you start charging for garden waste people will just start launching it in their black bins.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The commitment to COP26 and COP27 by the Scottish government should mean that recycling remains a priority for the council any attempt to charge for that service would see a decrease in recycling in many areas of West Lothian due to cost impact and therefore an increase in landfill costs due to more general waste	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introducing charges for household garden waste collections (assuming that this includes food waste, as per the current brown bins) would be negative - having these provided for no charge would hopefully mean that these are used and can help cut food waste, costs and associated negative impacts for the planet. Introducing a charge would mean more food waste, less sustainability and less people able to do so due to costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think I'd be wary of introducing charges for garden waste. people will just end up putting it in their grey bin, or fly tipping. Garden waste is something every household produces, so there needs to be a route for disposal of this material.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste, more money spent on food bins?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't think it is fair to add extra cost for garden waste when everyone is using this, and we already pay a lot for council tax which is consistently increased every year.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	household garden waste collections should be part of our council tax, this should not incur a discretionary charge.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste collection will no doubt lead to problems, and greater costs, elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I already live next to a dumping ground (so no change for me);	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I personally wouldn't mind paying for household garden waste collections however it is an essential service for many who might not be able to afford it and might just dump there garden waste. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I work in retail and know for a fact that your employees are well paid ; Stop the stupidity and wasting money on bins expecting everyone to have plenty room for them ; Stop wasting money on things that don't work eg 20mph zones that weren't law enforcement as well as lots of other stuff that you do ; Taking away big grey bins and making them small ones ; just leave the big ones and save money ; ; The rubbish will lie about the streets ; You should be encouraging people to maintain their property and charging ppl certainly doesn't ; Xmas lights at the centre half are broken just leave them down they make it look tacky not festive	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If households are to pay for garden waste collections - this may encourage fly tipping as households may be reluctant to pay and dump waste elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	It needs to remain affordable for residents. Charge for household waste might mean more fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Please don't remove the household garden waste collections - it will end up with people fly tipping everywhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Cannot charge for garden waste as it contains food waste as directed by council	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Stop the charging for household waste- that's what the council tax is for!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for the collection of garden waste collections would doubtless lead to increased fly tipping. This would cause unnecessary expense for landowners in the area. I do not agree with this proposal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would not agree to charging for collection of garden waste. I live in a rural area of Bathgate and already have issues with fly tipping - I believe any charging of collection of bins would increase people dumping their waste in the countryside.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	In regard to charges for garden waste, I and my family already compost at home and fill up the relevant bin, charging us would be foolish as you gain from saving money for your own use rather than purchasing compost for open areas. I would not mind purchasing already made compost below shop prices as I need quite a bit for gardening.; ; I do understand cost is incurred from use of facilities, staff working and maintenance of machinery however charging people would put us off recycling the relevant materials - having the array of bins is already an eye sore without us paying for them to be emptied.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	However additional charges to households in the current climate should not be an option.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	What would happen to the food waste? Have to pay for that to be removed as well? This would only instigate fly tipping and rodent issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for household garden waste collections - While I agree with the concept, I would recommend that this is only implemented out with summer months when everyone is needing to maintain their gardens. We have also had a change to household waste collections where we now include this in our garden waste, how will this be separated again without causing confusion or adding another bin to houses?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not sure why the council would think introducing a charge for picking up household garden waste collection, is a good idea considering the removal of the 'free uplifts' on other waste failed, and has probably cost the council more money in the long term dealing with fly-tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I wouldn't agree the introduction of charge for household garden waste collection (but there is no fee amount given) as think this would inevitably encourage and increase fly tipping or garden waste going in grey bin, adding to waste going to landfill. This would undo the good work already being done by the Council	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Need to allow garden bonfires in that case. If garden pickups aren't already included in the council tax. Or accept garden waste will end up in the gutters and on the pavements or over the fence. Resulting in costs simply moving elsewhere.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The introduction of charges for garden waste removal will just cause people to dump it or put it in the black bins rather than pay to have it removed. This would set the region back in terms of reducing waste sent to landfill.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste bin charges will just increase dumping as we don't all have cars	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree with charging for garden waste as this can be recycled and used by the council on its parks/gardens.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of brown bin charges - No. It's likely to increase fly tipping which simply increases costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you start to charge for garden waster collection, I'd (a want a reduction in my Council Tax as I understand that to be a service I'm already paying for and (b you can have your brown bin back as my garden is full of bins now after the introduction of the green one. ; I might take my garden rubbish to the local recycling centre and if you close them, I'll just burn stuff in my garden. ; But I won't be paying twice for a service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	In my view charging for household garden waste collections will just result in roadside dumping and burning of waste in back gardens. It will generate next to no income. The brown bin collection will run at lower capacity and reducing the frequency of brown bin collection will result in public health issues.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste collections not acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you begin charging for garden waste to be collected you may find people will dump their garden waste as due to the cost of living rise many families can't afford it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Given that in WL the brown bins are also used for food waste I don't see how you can justify charging for these to be collected. The food waste will end up going into landfill - causing emissions from landfill increasing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Isn't our household waste collection already paid through our council tax?; ; This is crazy	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why the hell do we lay council tax if you are just going to charge us for the services we pay for	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for waste collection and reducing services as recycling centres leads to more fly tipping and is counter productive	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There should not be an extra charge for garden waste this is covered by council tax fees you may end up with people dumping there waste elsewhere with cost of living crisis people cannot pay extra money on top of council tax also which pays for this service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Folk will just dump garden waste anywhere, thought you wanted garden waste to make compost etc so helps the environment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge for waste collection is a joke, as currently bins won't be collected if the lid is even open a little bit.; plus, the bin men tend to leave behind any scattered rubbish. Increase the recycling centres.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If councils are to introduce charging for garden waste, will they reduce council tax fees to recognise this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No to the introduction of fees for garden waste waste. People won't be able to afford and waste will just get left lying about and drop the standards of housing. This should just be covered in the brown bin collection.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We already pay a fortune in council tax to get our bins empty and now you want to charge again for garden waste. What about all the leaves that end up in the gardens from council trees? I won't be paying for uplifts of these so you will need to tell us where you would want these put.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste uplift will just mean more fly tipping in the street. Another tax on those that work but get no financial help.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not dare charge for household garden waste collections or you may find it dumped outside your offices. We pay an exorbitant council tax rate already. ; How on earth would local residents remove garden/brown bin waste? The Brown waste bin in West Lothian now includes waste food mixed with garden waste safely from their own property. This waste would end up squeezed in Black general waste recycling or dumped at roadsides. Your levels of recycling would go down as more people will put this waste into the black bag stream so you will increase cost to the council.; The level of rats & vermin would increase making West Lothian an unsafe, unsightly place to live. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Pay for brown bin collections? People will just put it in the grey bin!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for waste will increase fly tipping as it always has. It will cost more to clean up than collection. ; Council tax should incorporate charges for all refuse collection.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Concern might be that people source other ways of avoiding these charges that, in the longer term, could be more damaging and expensive for the council?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Household and garden waste collection are already at a minimum. Charges for a monthly collection if that is outrageous. Council tax is too high already	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Huge rises may result in loss of income	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why should we pay for our waste to be picked up when we have to pay council tax? Think that's terrible and robbing	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Additional charges for house hold garden waste may backfire,don't want fly tipping instead.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections will definitely increase incidences of flytipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	NO to introducing charges for household garden waste collection - the poorest would suffer most & be seriously discouraged from maintaining their gardens and the pride in community that can engender.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There should be no charge for the collection of garden waste when this is being combined with food waste and could be an income generator for the council if put through an ADR/windrow/biomass or similar. We are already charged for bulky uplifts and the operational times of the recycling centres make it hard for any full time employed person to attend to dispose of waste themselves.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	CRCs: the existing provision of five community recycling sites is a higher level of provision than in most other areas and ensures good access for residents. The council does not charge for household use of community recycling centres and aims to match opening hours with customer demand to ensure optimal efficiency.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge for garden waste?...its biodegradable, people will just make a pile in a corner or compost. What a waste of money for trhe brown bins! ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Having food waste put in the brown bin has already been imposed without consultation so now mixed. If garden waste is to be charged for, people will just put food waste in the grey bin for landfill. How would this improve recycling? This has not been thought through at all. ; Xmas trees should be mulched not just going to landfill.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you are going to charge for garden waste again we hope it doesn't become a problem as people use other items ie a neighbours bin or landfill or any other bin Or fly tipping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste charges could lead again to fly-tipping and properties gardens not being maintained properly. Are you remembering that members of the public are in the middle of a cost of living crisis too ?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging to any waste collection will lead to illegal dumping as it is prominent in other council areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As I'm required to pay Council Tax and this Wii be an ever increasing burden on all domestic occupiers, I don't see why I should pay more to have my bins emptied. Why not empty two bins one wee and two a fortnight later thus all bins are emptied in two weeks instead of the present four.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't agree about garden waste, it will end up in another bin or be dumped somewhere. The rest is OK.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I do not understand fee for garden waste collection - is it not part of the service paid by our council tax?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden Waste, The Brown bins also take FOOD waste, the contents of these bins are Compostable = Valuable £££ Make compost Make money and/or use for Power generation, the gas produced IS re-usable and controllable unlike landfill. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would support all of the above except the charges for garden waste collections - this will result in illegal dumping of waste throughout the county.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Many not in a position to afford additional costs can barely afford essential so fly tipping could become a problem	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	This will lead to garden waste being dumped illegally.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge for garden waste so my food would all be going in the grey bin ☹️ ; ; Council tax here is more expensive than Edinburgh I mean who needs 4 bins and no glass bin crazy!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Would worry introduction of fees for waste would lead to fly tipping or people replacing green spaces around there homes with hard landscaping	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree to these except garden waste charges as this would be likely to result in increase in fly tipping.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Fly tipping: is illegal and perpetrators may be charged and/or fined if caught. The introduction of charging for bulky uplifts was in line with the approach taken by most local authorities in Scotland and charging for a service is not an excuse for fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	It should be remembered that you currently promote commingled treatment of garden and food waste. The last thing we need is another coloured bin to allow for garden waste collection to become a separately chargeable service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Disagree regarding waste service. This is probably the only really service the majority of people receive from the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Planning - care has to be taken not to stifle future development or improvements to the existing property due to over charging ; Leasing to commercial operators can only be done in line with market evidence	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	An introduction to household garden waste collections ? You do realise that this will only lead to an increase in fly tipping which is already an increasing issue in rural areas in turn an funds raised will just be robbed from Peter to give to Paul as the funds will be required to combat the increased fly tipping from those who cannot afford to pay further additional costs	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste collection should continue to be free. Explore other areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not agree with charges for brown bins as you have already included compostable waste in these bins and how are people meant to dispose of this waste themselves if they cannot afford the charge. ; This will lead to fly tipping and create more problems.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think to implement charges for garden waste would increase fly tipping, this is a service that should be covered by the council tax revenue -the uplift is not weekly and is done on a rota so should not bring in additional cost. It could be taken to a location that could then be used to make compost (if suitable) and the compost could be sold to the public; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Bad, bad...people don't have many. They will stop care about waste and will dump around where they live. Actually is already happening	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	i do not support you charging for garden waste collection, what extra plans /costs for waste food then?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you change for bin collections flytipping will increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste Again as pensioner over eighty it is a needed service which I pay for in Band E council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There should be no charges for garden waste collections - this could be counterproductive with such waste being dumped. any leasing of facilities to a commercial operation would have to be carefully monitored.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Higher rents and more charges in this climate is a worry for most people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Scrap plans for charges for household garden waste. Food waste is collected via this collection. This will reduce the cost-effectiveness of the service as the vehicles will still do the same routes but with less collections (thus no reduction in overhead) as many households will not pay the charge. Households will simply dispose of food waste by other means. The public did not choose to separate waste. This was instigated by the council therefore the council should continue to support this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	already over charged for everything	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	How would an introduction of charges for households garden waste work? If you make a charge for a brown bin, folk might well decide not to have a brown bin. What would happen to food waste that currently goes into the brown bin? would a food bin have to be reintroduced? What would that cost? If folk decide not to have a brown bin, how would that be policed, to ensure that the grey bin did not have garden waste in it? Trying to reduce landfill would be in jeopardy if folk were to put garden waste in the grey bins. It is clear that the council do not police or maintain the bottle banks properly. The bottle banks and surround in Drove Road and North Armadale is a disgrace. There is so much broken glass, especially in Drovers Road and the occasional "cleaning" around the area is farcical. North Street banks are by a concreted area and the broken glass should be easily cleaned up by cleaning operatives each day and the cardboard stuffed between the banks should be removed every day. Is there a private company who could provide a Household collection for glass so that the bottle banks could be done away with?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The council decision to not collect business waste has led to a reduction in the appearance and tidiness of our locality. Shops and businesses who do not have space behind their premises (and some that do) have large bins parked outside their chop frontages on pavements and outside (redacted) in Whitburn Road in Bathgate, pavement, (redacted) in North Street Armadale and outside the partnership centre also in store in the main street are an eyesore, (redacted) has cages and bread trays as well as bins outside his shop. Tollgate home bins by the side of the buildings. A few years ago, there were grants to smarten up shop fronts and now they are adorned with grotty large bins and the shops look tacky and unkempt. I've no doubt that this is replicated in other areas of West Lothian. Thought it was obvious not given to the environmental impact the decisions would have. What happens next? In april there was talk of a legal requirement to have traffic wardens. Whaen wl they materiallse? With the amount of pavement parking in the aras the wages of the trffic wardnes would very soon be covered by teh fines.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Commercial: the council no longer provides a Commercial Waste Collection Service to businesses and there are no plans to re-introduce this service as the cost of reinstatement would outweigh the benefit. There are a number of commercial waste collection companies operating in the area and businesses have a responsibility to dispose of commercial waste through appropriate and legal channels.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	How will you charge for garden waste when currently it's combined with food waste.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Options for implementation will be fully investigated as part of the development for any proposal to introduce additional fees and charges.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	How would food waste be collected from households which didn't pay for garden waste collection? would this have to go into the black bins and so to landfill?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	No there would be a permit system to identify bins that have paid for Garden Waste collections
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not sure what you'd be leasing, to whom and for what benefit. Are you suggesting sub-letting aspects of your assets?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I appreciate the council need to generate funds, but why should it be for these particular services. The public are already struggling with the cost of living crisis. This may lead to people not being able to afford essential work that will negatively impact the local area.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not sure about garden waste - this could add to flytipping and discourage people from maintaining gardens.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rents etc cant comment on as i dont know what the charges aree already or proposing to be	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't know why you would charge for household garden waste when we have the appropriate bins to put these in??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	So if you have a bigger house, and you pay more council taxes you also have to pay for the garden waste collection.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We pay a lot of money for council tax and get very little for it apart from getting our bins emptied and now you want to charge for it? This recycling will end up in the grey bin	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Household garden waste- what do we pay our council taxes for? Is this not part of recycling? ; In other countries communal bins are used and emptied regularly- could this not save money?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Waste collection is surely covered by council tax? Not all will pay for waste collection with a result in fly tipping. What about food waste collection ? Would this cease?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If we have to pay for the removal of garden rubbish what happens to the waste food collection which is put in the same bin. Folk would not be prepared to pay to get this picked up. It would I fear lead to fly tipping of garden and waste food.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do the council make money from garden household waste, would this incur more fly-tipping or garden waste will end up in the grey bin.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges for household garden waste collections - then people will burn their dried leaves eh, thought you were wanting to reduce carbon?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	..	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	N/A.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Noted	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	UTC.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't know enough about this to comment.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	no comment on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I am unable to provide further input as the level of detail within the estimated saving briefing doesn't allow me too.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Is it financially feasible to collect the charge? how many people will this apply to and what will the cost benefit be? Can people afford it? What is a reasonable charge? What will the consequence be if charges cannot be paid? are there alternative approaches?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste fees.....what about people on low incomes who delight in their gardens?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I don't have a view on the other points as I have no connection or knowledge of these sectors	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Sorry again we have do not have much say as we are not in control of funding, the whole world is in a bit of a state due to Covid and mismanagement at local UK and Scottish Governments. Although we realise that cuts will be made, it is a very depressing read with cost of living, Covid Recovery and world events, Leaving EU etc. My answers will be mostly similar throughout this consultation as I would not like to make decisions as when it comes down to it, people will lose jobs. I believe that we have to support Economic Development and Employability, we need to try and invest!	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The introduction of a charge on household garden waste!!!! Garden waste was only recently amalgamated with food waste, so does that imply that yet another bin will be delivered to every household if this goes ahead to allow the two to be separated.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	How would it work now garden waste and food waste are combined? I believe most people would start putting food waste back in the black bins and fly tip the gardening waste back in the woods. Poor idea.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If charges for garden waste collection are introduced then how does this impact collection of food waste which was merged into the same bin around 12 months ago? Would food waste be separated again into the food caddy's? At what cost would it be to replace all the food caddy's that have been discarded just months before?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If you start charging for garden waste collections, you will have more fly tipping. Isn't this already covered in council taxes?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Yes, it's my choice to have a garden, but it's green and good for the environment. Would the cost of administering the payment scheme, plus the additional dumping removal actually make a gain?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why discriminate against people with gardens? My council tax is already very high compared with some and we receive the same services. Council tax is an unfair system and charging more for garden waste would just make it even more unfair.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If charges are made for garden waste collection, there will be more fly tipping. How will this be matched with the food waste collection in the brown bin??	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Would the introduction of garden waste charges mean food waste would return to a separate collection?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	charges for household garden waste collections - This will increase littering and fly-tipping. Also, currently, the brown bins take also house food remains, etc. Will you charge for this as well?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	4. i have no idea what the rent across the council is like and whether it is good value for money.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste, meaning the brown bin? It'll lead to fly tipping.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If I am going to be charged for garden waste collection then what am I actually paying council tax for? I don't have children, I live in a new build estate which isn't covered by the council and i rarely use council services so I'm effectively paying a lot of money to get my other bins emptied once a fortnight. 🗑️🗑️🗑️	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	It was my understanding that garden waste went to composting. Is our council not wanting to promote a sustainable future?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Does this mean the end to waste food collection and yet another huge investment in new bins wasted? Changing for garden waste will also lead to yet more dumping.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	need to understand what fees are being proposed for the examples provided before I would be able to properly comment.;	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	What are the level of charges you are proposing and when? I need this info before I can make a response.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	An introduction of fees for household garden waste collection would seem hard to enforce and adds to bureaucracy. For example, how does the council know who is making use of the service on a month-by-month basis? If the idea is to apply a flat charge other than 'by individual use profile', why not just increase the council tax? Also, it could encourage anti-social behaviours such as dumping or fly-tipping of waste. Increasing lease fees from commercial operators seems fair, but not so for social enterprises which we want to encourage.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. Any proposed increase in rents would be for the commercial property portfolio. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Social enterprises link this in with youth services	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	To my knowledge council's were public services not to make profits to survive.; I thought council tax was to pay for services.; But who ever decided to freeze council tax over the years well on their head be it not aure they should be sleeping easy!; That's why we are in a mess.	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Also, in a similar vein, could you have sponsored roundabouts?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council currently generates income from the sponsorship of roundabouts by local businesses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	When putting up buildings for young people, don't just pay the usual developers, think bigger, get value and more bang for your buck - get modular buildings like forward thinking countries do.	4. The council is already doing this.	All options are considered for new buildings with a full appraisal of options undertaken to ensure buildings meet best value considerations as well as service requirements.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Do not have properties vacant and make it a lot easier for people to find commercial etc property for use on fleoxle contracts.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Definitely make better use of your estate to multiply rents.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No commercial organisation should benefit from a cheap lease. if rates are paid on vacant properties could these properties be sold.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease facilities to a commercial operator, social enterprise or franchise - so tax payers can pay more fur the use of libraries, council gyms, etc? ; ; Review of rents and fees for the council's commercial properties - surely you do this already? This is basic commercial planning.	4. The council is already doing this.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The rents and fees for council properties review okay as long as commercial users - charities & community groups should be accorded preferential access.	4. The council is already doing this.	Any proposed increase in rents would be for the commercial property portfolio. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Look at different contracts the council has and see where money could be saved. E.g. School meals are ridiculously overpriced for the quality and could be made more cheaply by other service providers. Same could be said for many other contractors, I imagine.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for garden waste may discourage people to grow their own produce, plant wildflower beds, have bee friendly plants, which will have an impact on pollination and goes against council and government 'green' targets. Perhaps setting up of local composting sites would be a way of processing garden waste and also generating a useful output	4. The council is already doing this.	Council Open Space and Biodiversity Officers engage with local communities around food growing initiatives etc
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge vans and trade (maybe already doing this) more fines for fly tipping and dog fouling.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Given the volume of development ongoing, developer contributions should absolutely be under review for aggressive maximisation.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council maximises contributions from developers in line with legal agreements.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Sale of council land assets could also be investigated - Linhouse has potential for development given its proximity to train station etc. What is the development value of this land? This could potentially offset a substantial sum of the funding the council needs to make, if not all of it. It is recognised that the site as it currently stands has environmental benefits, however a higher standard of nature-based solutions, biodiversity net gain and net zero solutions has the potential to create an exemplary community, that West Lothian can be proud of and make money out of at the same time.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a planned disposal programme for assets which are no longer required for service delivery and have been declared surplus to requirements. Currently Linhouse is marked for employment land in the local plan and is not currently being considered.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease facilities to a commercial operator, social enterprise or franchise - why are we not already doing this? Review of rents and fees for the council's commercial properties why are we not already doing this?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease facilities to a commercial operator, social enterprise or franchise - why are we not already doing this? Review of rents and fees for the council's commercial properties why are we not already doing this?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging developers more - good! (If that's what you actually mean, nothing is clear in this document)	4. The council is already doing this.	The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I like the idea of Social Enterprise	4. The council is already doing this.	The council currently works in partnership with WLSEN in relation to social enterprise.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Look at the rent for shops and if they had more shops, they would have more money.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste is collected with food waste. Huge bins for food waste only so cost to supply smaller bins would need to be taken into account.	4. The council is already doing this.	This would be a future consideration dependant on the take up of the garden waste service
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Maintain council services as council services.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Leasing premises to commercial operators - leasing a room / office space	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Generate income from Marketing at roundabouts and elsewhere.	4. The council is already doing this.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I'd like to see a review of the rents and fees for the council's residential properties. Don't take more from developers because the nice ones will just go elsewhere.	4. The council is already doing this.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Encourage more investment in our communities from private companies. And put pressure on them to invest in our infrastructure (like roads and things to do). That will increase the value of our homes and communities and encourage more wealth to come to West Lothian.	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	invest in youth	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	invest in youth	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	any proposals should consider the economic context of West Lothian population - with large proportions on low income and high levels economically inactive. Just because other areas charge does not mean that approach should be adopted. Any approach WL takes should be based on a WL context.;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council will continue to have a fair pricing strategy and concession scheme to ensure that charges generate income to support council services, in a way that is consistent with the council's Anti Poverty Strategy.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Other suggestions for revenue:- Re-charging for repairs where damage is deliberately caused by tenants, lost keys and also where there is no access - this isn't happening in most cases	4. The council is already doing this.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	increase the amount of facilities to lease invest in people with good ideas	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored. The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We trust the council work and view, plan to develop our area, and investments	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Good, but needs to be supported by enforcement and active debt recovery.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	what happens with people who don't pay their rent - or their council tax. Is this chased ?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Have people in the empty council houses lying around West Lothian and will cover a lot more rent.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council operates its housing stock with a daily occupancy of around 98.6%. The council ensures properties that have been returned by tenants are checked, any necessary improvements or upgrades are completed and allocated as soon as possible.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Green waste recycling is an essential climate chaos reducing operation that all residents should pay for - raise the community charge/business rates so that everyone pays for this to be continued.; Planning advisory services should be reviewed and considered whether they have been adequate or eve appropriate up to now.	4. The council is already doing this.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with the other proposals, although lease of properties to social enterprises or charities would need to be for a very small or nil cost or else they will not be sustainable.	4. The council is already doing this.	Any proposed increase in rents would be for the commercial property portfolio. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Additionally, you removed the food waste collection to save funds and combined this with garden waste...	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is transparent regarding all budget savings with budget savings having to be approved at full Council. Officers cannot implement savings in advance without approval by elected members with all reports available publicly.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Maybe look at notorious debtors and create alternative paths for them and get social work involved to make sure it does not happen on regular bases.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity. This includes support from the Anti-Poverty Service.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Instead of trying to raise charges the council could look at getting debt collected in a more efficient way. Not letting people going into extreme debt and owing £ 4 - 5 k for CTR or rent and then just going bankrupt and writing it off. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As a small business owner, I am only just managing to keep my head above water - in large part thanks to the rental of a small council commercial property. The rental hike proposed by my previous landlord would have closed by 29 year old business. Perhaps rent reviews in such council buildings could be linked to the number of people employed by the business. A business that is able to employ 10+ employees has a greater possibility of raising the additional revenue for a rental increase - as opposed to a business with perhaps only 2 or 3 employees. Rental increases may actually result in the small businesses reverting to working from home and actually result in a reduction of rental monies to the council. This needs careful consideration.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. Affordability is considered.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Stop cutting tenants grass etc for free.	4. The council is already doing this.	In most circumstances where the council has to arrange grass cuts for tenants, tenants are invoiced for the cost. This is not funded from council tax but tenants rent.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You should have kept car parks and used them to get funds. By privatisation you lose more income.; Planning is a joke anyway- if you decline planning it just goes to the Scottish gov and they say yes to everything.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has not privatised any car parks. Income collection is undertaken for some car parks where there is charging but the net income received is greater than what it would cost the council to collect the income. Planning regulations are determined by the Scottish Government.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not enough help from the council on the many bill. Been to the advice shop who were some help.	4. The council is already doing this.	At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community. The council seeks to agree realistic payment plans with individuals who have outstanding debt.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	These services need to be investigated before decisions are made	4. The council is already doing this.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The council should fund the 3rd sector	4. The council is already doing this.	The council invests substantially in the third sector, working in partnership to deliver services and outcomes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fees and rents for commercial properties would need to depend on the nature of the renter. Safeguards for social enterprises and similar should be maintained.	4. The council is already doing this.	Any proposed increase in rents would be for the commercial property portfolio. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Sell the football stadium to Livingston FC to generate a one time income fee to help plug the budget of ~£250,000-£300,000	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Receipts from sale of land can only be invested in assets and cannot be used for revenue service delivery. Any receipt from the sale of Livingston FC could not be used to address the revenue budget gap.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Should charge for using a library, I don't use the library, pity those who do.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council has to provide access to library services. It is not one of the areas where the council can apply discretionary charges.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Is there anything else the council can charge for - £1 per car into the dump? Might increase fly tipping though.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Thank you for your comment
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Allow opportunity for those that can afford it to pay a little more to raise income in to the council. For example, we are charged milk money in school for our child to receive milk, charged at pounds and pence. If there was opportunity to 'round up' as banks offer to people, I would be happy to round up these payments if the additional funding from doing so was put directly back in to the school or given to children who receive free school meals. May not make a huge difference, but I'm sure there are ways such as this that small amounts can be invested back in by middle and higher income families to support others.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council has the ability to introduce charges for specific discretionary items, however these charges have to be clear and agreed in advance. This would not permit the ability to round up payments. The regulations relating to discretionary charging are tightly applied to the council.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Any agreements for developer contributions should be made to the council before any work starts on the development.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Payment schedules for developer contributions are set out in legal agreements, which once signed, the council must honour. The council works with developers to ensure timely payment, with some large contributions (e.g. for new primary schools) being received in advance.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Fine as long as council tax not increased	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. This includes both increases to council tax and discretionary charges. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	people can pay to sell their products at events organised by the council	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	This would be out with the purpose and remit of the council. There are limited circumstances where the council can apply discretionary charges.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	pay for events and not have them for free ; ;	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	This would be out with the purpose and remit of the council. There are limited circumstances where the council can apply discretionary charges. The council has very few events where charges could be applied.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	IF TO CONSIDER GARDEN DISPOSAL SEPARATE FROM BIN COLLECTION ON COUNCIL TAX, SHOULD IT NOT BE CONSIDERED TO CHARGE FOR ACTUAL BIN COLLECTION USED ON WEEKLY MONTHLY BASIS, BY THE CONSUMER. EFFECTIVELY CREATING A PAY AS YOU GO SYSTEM. THIS IS MORE FAIR AND YOU PAY FOR WHAT YOU USE.;	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council has to deliver a general waste collection service as a statutory requirement therefore a pay as you go system could not be introduced. Charges can only be applied to a limited number of discretionary services, which includes garden waste. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think it would be more appropriate to try and increase income from palling and developer contributions rather than individual households who already pay Council Tax for waste removal	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure. Developer contributions cannot be used to balance the council's revenue budget.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Bring back the food waste bins	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Offer compost bins & many would be fine to skip brown bins.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Try to make money from businesses where possible rather than individuals.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Too many people get free or reduced cost services without any kind of means testing	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes. Means testing would involve considerable resources and is not legally allowed for many services. Concessions will be reviewed to ensure they are appropriate and that their use is maximised.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	leave the travel consesion on the trains as oaps depend on this	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Pensioners and young people under 22 have access to free travel on buses throughout Scotland.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	REVIEW OF RENT FOR COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES, COULD IT NOT BE TO OFFER NO RENT TO GET EMPTY PROPERTIES FILLED AND COUNCIL COULD CHARGE FOR COUNCIL TAX AND BINS FOR COMMERCIAL PROPETIES TO TRY GET HOLES IN THE HIGH STREET FILLED.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The council has high occupancy with very little empty commercial properties. Commercial properties pay non domestic rates, not council tax, which is collected centrally by the Scottish Government for future allocation to all councils.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Introduction of charges should be means tested or there is the risk of additional administration costs trying to recover charges.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Means testing would involve considerable resources and is not legally allowed for many services. Concessions will be reviewed to ensure they are appropriate and that their use is maximised. The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Buy West Lothian leisure - a source of income	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your comment.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If charges are introduced for garden waste, other arrangements need to be made for food waste. Otherwise this will fill grey bins or be dumped.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Cost of living is already a problem and now people will be expected to pay for waste? Ridiculous considering council tax is so high. If waste was to be charged for then council tax should reduce significantly	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Leasing or renting of council buildings, spaces or land to other people must be signed off by the local people who live in the town or village. If they do not agree, then it does not get approved.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	It would be impossible to implement a governance structure that would facilitate this and would result in inflexible and inefficient use of scarce council resources. The council has community choices, a platform for participatory budgeting with local communities making decisions regarding spend and investment.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Try things such as permits for on street company car parking -easy to identify through fuel card / tax relief.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	West Lothian Council agreed in February 2019 that the workplace parking levy would not be introduced in West Lothian.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Most new builds should now be only council properties to allow most people to have access to a forever home. Also a continued and increased focus on the council buying back ex council properties should be a priorty, especially given the fact that due to cost of living, some of these properties could come onto the auction market and be bought back and under council control.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste will start getting fly-tipped and the expense of cleaning that up will be more than the current expense of collecting green waste bins. Also, privatize this service. Private third party companies prove they can do it more efficiently and cheaper while our bin men were on strike. So just give the contract to them.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	A good place to get some cash would be to start fining the cars double parked all day long in the surrounding streets close to st Johns hospital. You would make a fortune fining the folk on the double yellows all day beside the royal mail sorting office also. Rather that then charge the hard working council tax payers yet more money.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You barely empty my bins as it is, and I pay £215 a month council tax, if you charge me to empty my garden waste it will be getting fly tipped. A good place to get some cash would be to start fining the cars double parked all day long in the surrounding streets close to st Johns hospital. You would make a fortune fining the folk on the double yellows all day beside the royal mail sorting office also. Rather that then charge the hard working council tax payers yet more money.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping. The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease facilities to social enterprises but definitely not to commercial as costs go through the roof.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council has a duty to support economic development within West Lothian for both social enterprises and local businesses. The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. Any proposed increase in rents would be for the commercial property portfolio. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Could parking attendants not be brought to bring income as well and improve parking across the towns / villages	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Remove free charging points for EVa with immediate effect.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	Thank you for your response. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Has the council considered charging for parking and dining those who breach the rules? Given the selfish, lazy and obstructive parking I see a Ross the county there's a fortune to be made	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Pay and display parking across the area	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree, you may also want to consider charging for parking at the weekends in the council car park at the civic centre.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	we already pay through our council tax for garden waste so I don't agree with a charge for it although I think there should be a charge if you have more than one bin	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Open up services too the wider community	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Planning, rental and leasing fees should totally be reviewed and increased if necessary.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to reviewing discretionary fees and charges. Planning fees are determined nationally by the Scottish Government therefore the council has no ability to increase these fees.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Wouldn't it be possible to raise revenue from the use/sale of composted waste?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This is a process undertaken by the end processor
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Investigate selling the compost you make instead.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Contractor would undertake the use of material from the recycling stream
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	If we are to put our food waste in the garden bins, how are we expected to get rid of our food if we choose not to pay for the garden collection?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	There would be a permit scheme to identify residents who have paid for garden waste. Food would still be collected from those who hadn't paid.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	colossal amount of money to be saved, how will you help staff to feel part of the change, or included going forwards, are you concerned about staff retention?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council is committed to working with employees and trade unions in managing changes to its organisational structures and staffing requirements. The council will seek to achieve agreement to change through constructive and open dialogue.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Social franchises/enterprises may be possible with evidence that the operations are suitably skilled to undertake obligations of a lease.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has an approved policy which deals with transfers of certain council assets to the Third Sector. The approved council policy contains a number of safeguards designed to ensure that any transfer is sustainable in terms of future use. This includes contracts outlining future obligations and liabilities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	A review of rents for commercial properties is already undertaken with obligation of the council to ensure best value so it would be interesting to see what impact any other 'review' may have and how this would affect the market opinion for example if this differs it would either price the council out of leases or would be cheaper whereby it would not meet statutory obligations to achieve best value. Fees can be reviewed in line with other authorities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Previously the Council has rejected making charges for parking in Country Parks' car parks. Do you intend on reconsidering this now for all 3 Country Parks?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Problem with charges for garden waste is that the fees raised are eaten up by cost of implementing and running the scheme. If set too high, it could lead to increase of fly tipping or increase to use of community recycling. Thus, just transferring the budgetary burden	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	It is anticipated that even with implementation costs, introduction of charges for this area would generate substantial income the benefit of all services. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Need to pitch fees correctly - more people letting facilities at a lower fee better than 1 or 2 lets at a high fee and units setting empty. Prioritise town centre properties to keep town centres vibrant.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	3: charges for self employed to dispose of waste.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As stated previously, I am not in favour of reducing waste services as it encourages fly tipping. I also do not believe in commissioning services with the private sector as their primary objective is to make profits. I would encourage the review of fees for developers at a time when their profits are at their highest levels in recent years.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision. Planning fees are determined by the Scottish Government.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Possible charge could be introduced for waste sites. As it is for companies. Charge per skip run.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council currently generates income from providing a range of services to partners and organisations. Further opportunities to expand this could be investigated.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charge a bit more for bulky uplifts.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Try introducing fines for people not using their current bins correctly	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase charges for uplifts, business recycling	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Bulky Uplift increase: Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration. Commercial: the council no longer provides a Commercial Waste Collection Service to businesses and there are no plans to re-introduce this service as the cost of reinstatement would outweigh the benefit. There are a number of commercial waste collection companies operating in the area and businesses have a responsibility to dispose of commercial waste through appropriate and legal channels.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase charges for uplifts, business recycling	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Bulky Uplift increase: Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration. Commercial: the council no longer provides a Commercial Waste Collection Service to businesses and there are no plans to re-introduce this service as the cost of reinstatement would outweigh the benefit. There are a number of commercial waste collection companies operating in the area and businesses have a responsibility to dispose of commercial waste through appropriate and legal channels.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Generate income from Marketing at roundabouts and elsewhere.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The rest should be looked at how to commercialise services to earn money from businesses	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lost/damaged cards - concessionary travel cards, Young Scot Cards, Blue Badges etc; Housing rent arrears - if tenant's aren't up to date with rent then routine repairs should be refused	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Chargin for garden waste. Makes sense but now we put food in it why would we do this? They should split the food out again. Food is the biggest issue for carbon omissions so this should be recycled. If u charge for it, people won't pay it and it'll go into general waste	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Agree with above, but need to look for further opportunities. Consideration should be given to asking for donations for parking in Country Parks (or memberships to avoid daily charges) and any other popular car parks as an example.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The council should set up go fund me initiatives to pay for services that the community want that cannot be delivered in the future such as Christmas lights, painting schools etc.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council couldn't establish go fund me initiatives for core service delivery but could investigate opportunities to support community groups and others to raise funding through this mechanism.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Investigate other revenue streams like hosting profitable events within WLC facilities?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council will investigate all opportunities to generate income
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not sure what commercial properties the council owns so don't know who would be impacted. The Council has to prioritise the services for people who live here.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charger for repairs in council properties, reduce community care grant support	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Officers will consider how these proposals can be developed. Council properties relates to non residential properties only (council houses are funded by rents and are not subject to the reductions in this consultation).

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease facilities need to be comensurate with the type and commercial advantage outside operations might have. The higher the profit/commercial gain then the higher the lease cost	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. Rents are dependent on market conditions and rates and the type of unit being leased.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste could only be implemented on the proviso of refunds when the service is undoubtedly cancelled during periods of inclement weather/staff shortages/vehicle breakdowns which often causes brown bin collections to be cancelled.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I have a proposal I'd be interested in sharing with the authority that would utilise public buildings, provide hundreds of thousands (potentially millions) in revenue and be transformational in developing our young children both educationally and socially...	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Please provide details to allow further consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You need to advertise the use of council facilities better. Many people are unaware that you can hire or lease council buildings.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Social enterprises should be exempt from these price increases.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Any proposed increase in rents would be for the commercial property portfolio. Opportunities for community benefit leases are available for community groups and considered on a case by case basis.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	As per above - charge a reasonable amount for car parking at Beecraigs and possibly other CPs and areas where there are costly facilities.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews its charging and concessions policy and this can be considered as part of the next review.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Lease / Rents / Fees Must be sensible to encourage growth and stability in local businesses.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste should be able to be used by many at home but advice / direction on how to do this would be helpful for many.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Make all council meetings online to save travelling expenses.; ; Stop councillor expenses	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Hybrid working and improved use of technology has greatly increased the use of online meetings. Councillor expenses are determined nationally and out with the council's control.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Don't pay their pals money for the job.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Council housing rent charges should be revised and increased, still cheaper than private accommodation.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Would these charges be for brown bin collections ? or for additional garden waste ? I thought brown bins already came under the funding of Council Taxes.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The charge would be for residents wishing to put garden waste in the brown bin. If the resident did not, the brown bin would still be used for food
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	increase housing rent accordingly, less subsidy.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of fees for planning advisory services and to maximise developer contributions - eh?;	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Review of fees for planning advisory services and to maximise developer contributions - eh?;	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The problem with putting an additional cost to a current service supplied is that when the service is not delivered by WLC, then customers would be looking for a refund or an alternative supplier.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	What a state of affairs	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Dakujem	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Put up your rent for council properties. These are dirt cheap compared to private let's. People don't appreciate how lucky they are. And then some don't pay. Kick them out.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Maybe look at residential property rents... much cheaper than those paying mortgages and they don't even have to fix there own properties. Admit maybe should be cheaper, but surely not by that much!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rents and fees increase will just result in evictions then we put people in hotels for being homeless (which costs more money)	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The review of fees in this proposal is for commercial properties, not homes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Definitely review planning permissions as lots of structures are being erected by home owners without proper inspection, fees or permissions.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	not got anything for the elderly and disabled	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Absolutely increase planning fees and maximise developer contributions. If people can afford to build extensions etc....they can afford more for planning. The council is currently very poor at maximising developer contributions and appears to let developers get away with the bare minimum, leaving large impact on the local communities, with little in the way of remediation of mitigating the impact of new development on current residents. Re-directing the planning department to work for the benefit of local communities would be a good first step.; ; Agree with points 3 and 4.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Planning fees are set nationally by the Scottish Government therefore the council has no control over the level fees are set at. Developer contributions are set out in legal agreements based on the requirements of individual developments. The council works with developers to ensure timely payment of contributions set out in legal agreements.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Cut councillors wages.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Reduction in the top council salaries perhaps? The salaries and benefits of the Chief Executive and Depute Chief Executives could certainly be reduce or frozen given the circumstances.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council recognises the importance of managing pay fairly and in a way that motivates staff to make a positive contribution and support the delivery of the Council's objectives. In order to comply with equal pay legislation, the Council is required to develop pay and grading arrangements underpinned by job evaluation. Annual pay awards are determined through national bargaining arrangements which help ensure that certain minimum standards are maintained in relation to pay levels.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Stop wasting money building factories never used.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	West Lothian Council has not build any new factories. New factories across the county are privately owned and constructed.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You are determined to chase businesses out of WL. If you have lower rates, you will have more income due to increased businesses. In addition), this would increase employment levels and tax revenue.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Non domestic rates are determined by the Scottish Government.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Developers will charge more for housing and it will be unaffordable, although I think the greener they make there house build they should be charged less to encourage all to build better.; I think many people complain about the cost of their leases as it is and if they can't afford it then less economy	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Planning legislation is determined nationally by the Scottish Government. Other than developer contributions, for which legal agreements exist, the council has no bearing on developers' financial positions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	2:traffic wardens	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	ask for a percentage of the turnover instead of profit from developers that make a fortune out of new houses in West Lothian	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	planning fees are at an acceptable level, but could be increased in line with inflation;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council. The council has no ability to raise fees.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Please put up costs for those developing properties - generally these people are either (a) saving money by extending, so can afford higher fees, or are (b) developers who should be made to pay more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council. The council has no ability to raise fees.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging big developers more for planning may be fair but fees should reflect costs.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council. The council has no ability to raise fees.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Planning advisory services are under used because of a. Fee b. Slow response. In particular procedures for confirmation proposal does not require consent should be speeded up as in practice there is often no advantage in using this procedure.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council. The council has no ability to raise fees.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I blame ***** (redacted)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	So the council will review rents and fees for the councils commercial properties but landlords cannot review rents for tenants	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The position in relation to house rents was determined by the Scottish Government and applies to 1 April 2023. This proposal is focused on operational buildings from 2023/24 only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Planning fees could have a minimum number trigger?;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council. The council has no ability to raise fees.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase charges for private house builders fees	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although planning fees are set nationally, the increase in fees will result in additional income for the council. The council has no ability to raise fees.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	STOP PAYING OUT BENIFITS TO PEPOLE WHO ARE ABLE TO WORK AND CHOOSE NOT TO. LEAVE THE BROWN BINS ALONE.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Why not make facilities like Xcite easier to use? Like being able to walk up to the driving range at polkemmet in the evening and buy a token, rather than navigating the app or phoning ahead?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	the review of fees for planning advisory, this makes sense as the council seem to have a tendency to want to charge for everything anyhow. even if it is for private property. council wants its say at the cost of the customer on property that is privately owned.; ;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Planning fees and planning regulations are determined by the Scottish Government. The council has no control over these elements.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Sick fed up of the people who HAVENOT being subsidised by those who HAVE.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	There should be more ideas here for increasing savings what about final salary pension scheme?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The local government pension scheme is delivered by the Lothian Pension Fund and not the council. The scheme has been subject to review and changes have been made to make it more affordable.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Not much to add but in conservation areas where houses cannot be seen at all from the main road then projects such as window replacements should not need council permission.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Planning legislation is determined by national government.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Encourage more people to actively seek out employment rather than pay benefits to those who are "working the system". To introduce fees for garden waste will only encourage more fly tipping.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Putting commercial property rent fees up will likely end up with more businesses going bust.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Reintroduce parking wardens. Excellent income stream for WLC and also improve the quality of life of local residents. Inconsiderate parking is an issue in every ward in the area and leading to greater risk of traffic accidents and pedestrian injury. This would be a sensible move financially and socially.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Many items seem to require unnecessary planning consent as it is.;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Developer Contributions; Better allocation of these contributions ie some / more to be allocated to projects to give country parks, greenways, streetscapes and other informal areas a face lift as these often are used by far more people than the more formal pitches / play areas / formal parks.; ; Lease of facilities; To be appropriate to the location in question; ;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council is committed to maximising income with minimum detriment to domestic applicants. The council will review developer contributions in line with guidance when appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I also own an independent business and business rates are a crippling feature for me- especially as we see very few services which assist us- bin collection, street cleaning etc.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Non domestic rates are determined by the Scottish Government.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Less people able to afforded to lease property	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	West Lothian is a place where people want to move into, because of some of the reasons you suggest.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rubbish collections aren't great already	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I am concerned this will lead to an increase of waste being burnt, which could have the undesired effect of pollution and uncontrollable fire, especially in the summer.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Pay my council tax to have bins emptied. When they do get emptied	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Garden waste bins have been provided, this would then become a s wasted resource.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Even if a charge is introduced garden waste bins would remain fit for purpose and therefore not a wasted resource.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Funny how it's no cuts here	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We pay more than £3,000 a year in council tax. I would fully expect the bare minimum to be included in that huge fee e.g. garden waste collected. How much was wasted on the introduction of a 4th plastic bin - which incidentally is a complete pain as hardly any paper/card waste is collected, it's all plastic which means the plastic bin is full within a week and the paper bin is practically empty.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Previously almost every home put out a weekly food waste bin.; Now it goes in with garden waste and most homes do not put out a brown bin.; Charging for garden waste collection is likely to result in fewer bins being used and most food waste going to landfill. What a huge regressive move (for the environment)	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I think charging for household garden waste would be unfair. You have just changed the bin process and as part of that food waste goes in the brown bin. I honestly think the council have a duty to remove this as part of the process it follows just now. It's waste and should be guaranteed to be removed. I dread to think of what would happen to that waste of people we're expected to pay more for the Brown bin to be emptied. Not a good idea at all. The other options mentioned should be considered though	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increasing rents will have a devastating effect on businesses, especially when they are already struggling with energy bills.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Aye put the price up for everyone but not the wages ehh but the council will be OK and folk who work their at the top	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. The council has one of the leanest management structures in Scotland, demonstrating value for money.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Again this sounds like people are paying more in council tax every month for a lesser service and having to pay even more on top of this.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	This seems it could push small business to closures. There are very few services from the council we use. A bin collection is one i do use.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	No charges for anything for residents, they already pay for this via council tax, and in practice there are always exemptions for those on low incomes (normally already exempt from council tax) so all that happens is those who pay have to pay more to get basic services. Any charges should relate to Commercial/business users as they have the opportunity to amend their business models to account for this	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	At a time when household budgets are very tightly squeezed and working people are relying on food banks, charging for waste collection concerns me as it could lead to other H&S issues. Garden waste is mixed with food waste. Leaving this could lead to an infestation of maggots / flies or simply stop people from separating waste.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the budget gap, the council has to look at all options to increase income or reduce costs to ensure the statutory obligation to balance the budget is met. The council currently has an extensive concession scheme to help those on lower incomes.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	More detail required on fundraising opportunities and impact on households	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	It would not be right to offer feedback without a sound understanding of the services this relates to.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Be careful not to raise rents to levels that users cannot afford	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charging for household garden waste collections would likely exacerbate fly-tipping.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You are already charging for bulk uplifts if you start charging for the brown bins that collect garden refuse and food waste their is a potential for more fly tipping in local parks. And Because food waste will be mixed in with this the possibility for an increased rodent population. This will also be the 3rd time in the last few years that money would have been wasted on bins that you then make obsolete.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Council tax is going up and taking away one of the services by putting on a cost implication for families and people to pay already in the cost of living crisis	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Rent up in the middle of the worst austerity in living memory well done	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords. This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	So it pays for people to live in a flat as they will incur no garden bin collection charges, utter discrimination	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	People with get in a fight when tree leaves are blown into the garden of the neighbours, for example. This also happens with council gardeners who vlow leaves in my garden that I have to clean and put in my bin to keep my garden tidy.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	The garden waste would just go in the grey bins to avoid the charge (for some people)	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Increase costs to provide services to external private organisations but again open tips most people will use them. Charging for waste disposal is unfair on people	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate, including garden waste.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Wow another impact on the younger generation	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Changes to fees and charges is applied to all users with those in low incomes being afforded concessions where appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Charges for garden waste collections could result in more dumping over fences, etc.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We seen a rise in fly tipping when charges were introduced	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	You needed to define what specific measures you've identified that make up £1.1 million. You've chickened out by suggesting you'll do some investigations and listed some possible options, but you must know what makes up the £1.1 million.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	My understanding of consultation is that the audience needs to understand what is being proposed but this looks like a tick box exercise with the level of detail being provided,	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment about the survey, the council will carefully consider all feedback and use it to review and improve our consultation approach.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Which facilities would be leased out?;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. Community groups and individuals can rent council facilities, however opportunities to market this wider can be explored.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Speaking personally I think we'd just stop using council garden waste collection and put food waste in our own composter. Not because of the cost, but mainly the hassle of arranging for payments.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council welcomes anyone undertaking activities to minimise waste and reduce carbon emissions.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Income must be sustained of course. I am sceptical that charging for garden waste collection is going to be at all effective.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	I would be concerned that people will just start burning their garden waste	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	brown bin charges don't make sense. I'll put my grass into the grey bin instead	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	why do we pay COUNCIL TAX FOR	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	More info required	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	We already pay council tax.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Where will peor get the additional income to pay for the above, wages are not increasing and the cost is living is.; ;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Really just making everything cost more for everyone so it makes it harder for everyone to live affordable.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Again, charging will likely lead to fly-tipping so you need to be cautious on this one.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Experiences in other authorities has not necessarily seen a longer term increase in fly tipping.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Other things seem like normal council operations.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. Audit Scotland and the Scottish Government continue to state that councils should consider charging as part of their overall financial management. Therefore councils should understand the contribution that charges make to their overall financial position, and the extent to which individual charges are subsidised. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	Does this mean brown bin collections will be charged?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Reviewing income, concession	5 Reviewing income, concessions and other contributions	simply says you choose without input must publish detail plans before implementing	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Again, I would support it if there was evidence that this money was spent on other service such as schools, social care and leisure facilities/Health and wellbeing. But would definitely be looking for answers to questions on how this is being spent and how worthwhile this spending is and a social return on investment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If the money was guaranteed to be spent on schools and social care, I would welcome this rise	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support raising the additional council tax if there was clear information on how the additional funds would be spent. This should be laid out alongside the proposed increases.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase in council tax is inevitable. Not sure all households could afford it, in the current financial crisis climate. If the benefits of the increases are made clear with deadlines and targets, then maybe the sacrifice will be better received. In saying that, some households' priority is ensuring there is food on the table and they have a bit of heating in the colder months, so a 3.5% increase would be a stretch too far.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The Anti-Poverty Service provides advice and support to help people alleviate poverty. It is available to all residents to help them get additional support to help with the cost of living.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I believe that Council Tax needs to be increased to cover priority services. There will always be residents that disagree but that is human nature.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase in line with the mandated amount of 3.5% because I do understand that the council is in a difficult position.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support an increase of 5% per year. Would prefer my child (and others) to be in contact with a qualified teacher at all times in school.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Whilst against rising charges, acknowledgeable the necessity to increase CT by 3.5% to help generate funds to provide local services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't think it should be increased more than 3.5% and I think people would struggle even at that level	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No would not support an increase of more than 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support a rise; Council tax should be in line across authorities and not a postcode lottery	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is very tricky! Some families in WL are struggling, I am happy to pay 3.5% more as long as there is no significant reduction in the service provision. ; I don't want to pay more than 3.5% more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would be prepared to pay up to a 5% increase each year.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes to 3.5%, possibly to 5%. However, I cannot support an inflation size rise as at least 80% of people within West Lothian will not have an income rise to that amount. I know this means you are operating at a deficit but again Scottish Government should at least try managing their books let alone balancing them!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Schools and social care, yes, they must be maintained. Council Education department, no.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Potentially supportive but with inflation at 10% and pay rising much less than this, this is a much higher impact than 3.5% of spending power for a family.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	All of the issues currently experienced within WLC could have been avoided if the council tax was raised at a reasonable rate every year instead of having been frozen. it was all very good at the time for many, but they will be the first to complain when all basic amenities are even further reduced. I certainly would prefer to pay an increase in council tax and see all of our essential services invested in rather than stripped. £46 a year well invested.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Perhaps if guaranteed improvement in level of services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes would support reasonable increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It's acceptable maintain services and where you can absolutely ensure that it's spent wisely it's worth more..	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wouldn't object IF the money gets spent on key areas and NOT on management positions being kept or "massaging" certain egos	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With cost of living on the rise, tax payers don't have money to waste on projects or programmes that are not delivering any outcomes directly linked to the Councils 8 priorities. Your council papers need to make sure they are so that only relevant projects and programmes are funded to help keep council tax reductions to a minimum.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a council tax raise provided the facilities that I need are unaffected, for the 3.5 % proposed increase. ; ; As I do not benefit (or indirectly benefit) from a further increase of over 3.5% I feel I have no real say in the matter, however, if I did would prefer schools cared more about resource or H&S, rather than aesthetics or a pretty sign, etc...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, in principle we would agree but have witnessed WLC's lack of transparency and accountability in administering ourvtax money fairly. Therefore, we do not trust you to spend additional money fairly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Don't really have a choice do I?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	My only worry however is how we would be assured the additional money raised was indeed spent on these priority areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The annual budget report has information on each service budget, along with detailed information in service activity budgets.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of 3.5% for Bands A to D. For higher bands, I would support a greater increase of perhaps 4% or 4.5% provided this additional money is spent on schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax reform, including how increases to council tax are applied, can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax increases are the only fair way to ensure those who can afford to pay are paying more. Support a rise in council tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support more than 3.5%. My salary certainly isn't going up by that much	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Councils are the most important bodies for the management of local services. I cannot see why the Scottish Government does not manage the budget better. I would support an increase of more than 3.5% BUT ONLY IF THERE IS TOTAL CLARITY about where & how the funding is to be spent.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The annual budget report has information on each service budget, along with detailed information in service activity budgets.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Personally I would support an increase of up to 8% or even 10% if it helped with Social Care. My Mother was 93 when she died in the summer and I have had lots of dealings with Social services over the previous 3 years. I know how difficult it was to get her the care at home she needed in 2020 (Covid absolutely didn't help) and in fact she only got it because she broke her hip when she was 91 and couldn't go home without some help to wash and dress etc. so they needed the bed basically. She was able to stay at home before she died, with the help of the carers twice a day, a privately employed cleaner cum home help and help from myself and my husband for everything else - otherwise she would have needed to go into a home for at least 18 months before she died which would have cost the Council a lot more money than having carers come into her own home	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It needs to be 3.5% at the minimum to help the various services which are obviously needing to be cut somewhere already.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would NOT support a rise of only 1%. I would be annoyed if you did that to be honest in spite of the extra cost to us personally It absolutely should be much more than that; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am happy to pay more council tax, but then, I can afford it. for other people it would be the final straw, coming on top of inflation and mortgage rates and everything else. I would support an increase if there was a way for those who are really struggling to avoid it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands however there is support through the council tax reduction scheme. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes so long as council services don't shrink to an unmanageable level	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	cap at 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would suport an increase as long as the executive at WLC agree to NOT taking further increases in their own earnings !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would support a rise above the 3.5% if it was applied to all all bands, not just the higher bands.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Put the tax up. I don't want to live in a filthy, lifeless. Also the people who lose their job at the council will stop contributing to the economy and its a feedback loop.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't have enough information to determine whether that 3.5% increase is justified, but obviously, it is the largest regular bill for me outside of mortgage, and so I support affordability measures for me and other people who may be more in need than myself. Honestly, these savings to be made are so colossal and it doesn't feel right for citizens to be asked "what can you do without and pay more for", it feels better to just explain citizens have needs and that comes at a cost, that they pay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Affordability is a key consideration when setting council tax levels.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think we need to support an increase in Council Tax of at least 3.5% per annum as the alternatives will be to slash essential services. The only other alternative is to increase other income such as cemetery fees by higher than what you are planning.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People unfortunately don't have the continual extra money for constant increases. Small increases yes but with all the other financial burdens this has to be kept to a minimum. Too often cuts/increases are at the wrong end of the scale, eg lower paid workers reduced/affected by rises in taxes etc they cant afford	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Point 2 - I agree but must be clearly identified. Schools most important -next generations.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Personally, I don't know how you can raise the money to keep current services with out raising the rate, that is why you have the people on the big salaries, making good the decisions, while we pay our council tax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Any increase in council tax must result in clearly seen improvements/ retention of key service delivery. People want their council tax spent on key services and not on vanity projects.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is a very difficult question to answer because the funding for the Council comes from a combination of the Scottish Government Grant (which is also likely to be under pressure to be kept to a minimum in the near future) and the Council Tax. The other difficulty, particularly in a time of high inflation, is that the proposal assumes an increase of "... at least 3.5%" - this not the same as a flat rate 3.5% increase each year. If all things remain equal (no sudden drop in Scottish Government Funding) then a flat rate increase over the period 2023/24 to 2027/8 would seem to be reasonable and give some certainty for people.; ; For properties in tax bands A to D inclusive, any increase in 2023/4 would have to be clearly explained as the Westminster Government's £150 cost of living discount will no longer apply. In other words, the apparent increase will be much more than 3.5%.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would be happy to pay an increased council tax rate if it would mean schools don't have to suffer from lack of funding more than they are already. My children with additional support needs are already part time at school and not receiving the support they need. Their education doesn't need to suffer anymore, they are already not living up to their potential and this is all due to lack of funding and staff resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a higher rate of increase for higher band properties to support education - a tiered approach would support those with lower incomes whilst supporting local services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'd rather pay a little more than see the kids school hours reduced, but I am in a much more fortunate situation than most.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Need to be affordable rise. At the moment this would push more into poverty and increase debt collection costs	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Individuals on low incomes are able to apply for a number of council tax discounts and reductions.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I have no issue in increasing my CT however we still seem to pay more and be given less and less. If the money raised was actually VISIBLY used to improve schools and other areas such as refuse and local attractions. But I will not pay more money to fund the ridiculous wages of the Executives running WLC. I'm quite sure their jobs will continue to be safe whilst WL residents continue to be treated as if they do not matter except as a cash cow	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes in theory but the government need to give more money to LA.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Personally can afford to pay the increase but with inflation at 20% and heating costs many can't so needs to be as low as possible while keeping services necessary.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. Individuals on low incomes are able to apply for a number of council tax discounts and reductions.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes should be less for few years cut it down	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raise it by 3.5.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	For key priorities - yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would definitely NOT support an increase of more than 3.5% under any circumstances. Using schools and social care as spending priorities is like blackmail. These services should already be a priority for West Lothian Council to provide the best quality education for our children and care of our venerable and elderly people in West Lothian.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Happily pay a bit more council tax if leads to a decent education and care provision	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Happy for Council Tax rise	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase greater than 3.5% will be too much for most people the Scottish government should be providing more money to councils as they do have enough but say they don't but as usual the tax payers feel the brunt and have to pay more but still see cuts in the council provisions, there are not many easy solutions to all this unfortunately.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think 3.5% seems reasonable and increasing further would put undue stress on already tight household; Budgets	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase in council tax that was going directly to education, healthcare and social care. Not for more bureaucracy and managers who achieve very little.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support the increase in council tax if all the funding raised is spent on key areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would definitely agree to raising the council tax with no impact on essential services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support if spent on schools and social care	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support the raise if it was reflected in the school priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Up to 5% if monies funded schools, social work and elderly care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	In theory I would support a rise but again we would need to be very sure that those just know the cusp of levels are not chronically effected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. Individuals on low incomes are able to apply for a number of council tax discounts and reductions.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	To ensure other areas didn't not suffer a small increase would be reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't know, perhaps 2% would be better?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. When setting council tax consideration is given to overall affordability.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	IF the council tax increase was being put into education then yes, I would support it. If it was to put into paying for people who can work but aren't willing to then no o wouldn't be. It seems unfair that the proposed increase would only affect 25% of households but the increase would see a substantial increase in the council tax for those bands. Effectively that 25% would be shoring up the ones in the lower bands. Most people would like to see something for their money and it going to education would be a start.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	5% seems fair given that inflation is at 10% - if the council costs go up at 10% then surely income has to go up soon	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would pay more for Council Tax if it was required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would be happy to pay more council tax if going to schools and essential services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would be happy with the 3.5% as appreciate the revenue is needed, however would struggle with more than that regardless of what the money is spent on	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of 3.5% each year - or slightly higher - up to 5% ? If services would improve, I wouldn't mind the increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a larger increase of 3.5 if schools were given the funding needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Tax should go up, but in a progressive way, with the burden sitting as much as possible on the highest tax bands	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support increase in council tax provided that schools and social care budget are protected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support a raise in council tax of more than 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would support an increase of more than 3.5%.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raise it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would rather not, however, if it meant schools and social care would benefit then yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would be happy to pay more council tax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your Say on Council Tax	Again as previous comments, focus on fraudsters and benefit riders. I have a family member who needs to prove her medical diagnosis and such by travelling into Edinburgh, yet my other family play the game... my family member will never get better but will get worse, you can't cure autism, adhd,add..... But you can cure lazy people who live well off benefits.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support an increase as long as the additional funds were spent on identified key priorities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support more than a 3.5 % each year that is more than enough for people to pay	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax is a necessary payment but must be kept in line with rising overall cost of living. An increase at this time would have a serious impact overall.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. When setting council tax consideration is given to overall affordability.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support a 3.5% increase per annum 23/24 - 27/28. Would only be in support of a rise above this if the funding was split across all areas rather than a targeted use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No increase more than 4% for the next 5 years. If council tax was increased it must be clearly spent on a visible improvement and this publicised. E.g. better roads (no potholes, sunken drains), maintain paths not overgrown, drains and kerbs cleared of leaves & weeds, cycle paths regularly swept of stones/gravel, school facilities improved etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If we want the services we have to pay for them. I would be happy to pay a 5% increase and retain some of the services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think everyone will struggle with over 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think that council tax should be raised. Perhaps bring it in line with the average across Scotland across all house bandings. The majority of residents can afford to pay more per week for the services that they receive and should do so.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase, but only if the funding was targeted at front-line services. I feel that key services are those that benefit most people, and those are sometimes not schools and social care, but everyday things like emptying bins, gritting and repairing roads, and dealing with anti-social behaviour.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	i understand that the council in West Lothian needs to reduce spending whilst providing the many services that its residents require. Whether you are elderly or a family with a disabled child they all deserve support to get the benefits that they need. If you are disabled and require care it needs to be available and at a cost-effective price. Charging people for their care, as a disabled person myself is simply not right. I had to go through losing my support as I couldn't afford to pay for it.; It is essential that our schools are properly funded. It gives our children the best start in life. of course, support is available for our children if they have problems such as mental health issues or are ensuring that they don't fall behind with their learning. Adequate funding is therefore vital therefore I feel that I would be happy to pay more in council tax to ensure crucial services remain in place.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As this has already been done in other authorities it seems logical.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am happy to increase council tax to an extent but believe the government should increase the budget given to local councils.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Happy to pay more tax for more investment in resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	In the current economic environment, a proposed 3.5% increase seems entirely reasonable. Any increase above this would but unreasonable burden on hard pressed families	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase in tax on the proviso that educational based provision is protected and those in the social care system are maintained also.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	>3.5% is quite an increase, especially year over year, and it feels like once again the buck is passed onto the end user, rather than government or business picking up the bill. ; Plus it always feels like we pay more and get less - increase tax, cuts to services... ; It's disappointing that this will happen, but if the increases had a positive impact on our community and lives, I would tolerate it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'm content with the 3.5% but cannot afford anymore.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of more than 3.5%. I do not earn a large salary. Any saving for me would be helpful.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase of 3.5% each year for four years seems like a really large increase at a time when the cost of living is so high and many wages have been frozen. However an increase is inevitable if council services are not to suffer and there really is no other way of the council raising the funds, unless the Government are able to provide some additional resources.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree to the rise in Council Tax. I am not sure I would go above 3.5% without seeing more detail about what you are proposing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If an increase of more than 3.5% this must benefit everyone, not just people with children and social care. E.g. community facilities, condition of roads (not just A roads), cycle paths etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of more than 3.5%, an increase of 3.5% annually would also put a lot of finical straint on families who are currently already struggling, many individuals are not seeing wage increases that match this. Reductions in amount bins are emptied in a callender month could aid with saving money. Additonally, reductions in council fundings towards Gala days would aid with brdging the budget gap.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of up to 5% if the spend was ringfenced for schools and care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would no support an increase of more than 3.5%. This is due to me working and living within the council and seeing the lack of services the council provides that it should - emptying bins - never on time and sometimes just missed; working for the council - severe lack of school funding that they keep promising will improve - scottish government's plan was to reduce the attainment gap but the best idea the council can come up with to reduce costs is to reduce the funding in education?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase in council tax if public sector and other wages are also going up - if not then people will struggle to be able to pay as they are stretched already. That increase could be the difference between eating or not for some people and people may fall into rent/council tax arrears or lose their homes. More savings need to be made from the upper levels at the council.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. The council has one of the leanest management structures in Scotland, demonstrating value for money.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council Tax should increase by 3.5%. If not, more services will be cut which will have an impact on all WLC residents.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Given the pressure on household incomes it is hard to endorse a raise in council tax but if it is necessary to maintain social care I would agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not by much, please don't squeeze your residents too much.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. When setting council tax consideration is given to overall affordability.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% max at this stage as we are going through a cost of living crisis, hopefully things will improve over the next couple of years and future increases can be proposed	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Residents must pay for services it's not free.;;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It's just like the errors made in school transport. Years people behave been allegedly getting free transport and they were not entitled.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities. Where instances of fraud are identified these should be referred to the council's Counter Fraud Team. Contact the team on 01506 282002 or send an email to whistleblowing@westlothian.gov.uk . Alternatively you can complete the Whistleblowing online form available on the intranet. All referrals will be treated confidentially.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support 3.5%, perhaps a higher rate for higher banded houses?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax should increase/decrease according to the cost of living increases but within West Lothian council, otherwise it would be unfair for residents; The extra funding should then be used to find other viable means of income for the council and in turn to be given back to the community through better education and services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With support like concessions and reductions in place, increases in council tax are positive. Especially if it's shown the money goes into jobs that help residents, services that improve quality of life and environment	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The council should look at additional income measures rather than increase the council tax in itself.;;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	West Lothian Council currently has one of the lowest levels of charging within Scotland. All local authorities can introduce discretionary charges where assessed as appropriate. Given the scale of the financial challenge the council will have to consider both taxation and local charging.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a one off increase of 3.5% this year followed by 1% for the following years	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support an increase in council tax. I would much rather pay more council tax and see council services maintained, than face further draconian cuts, as outlined in the council's proposals.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	ONLY if it was going to social care and schools - not to line council fat cat pockets!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support if increases were spent on social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think 3.5% is the maximum most people could afford in this economic climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I feel all households should pay council tax. Even the most vulnerable or low income have rubbish that needs to be collected so I feel they should pay at least some portion.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% is all that people can afford, so the Council will need to find further savings to fund the deficit	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree with a small annual increase to council tax so long as it's needed, efficiency managed and not wasted on nonsense like the so called traffic calming, 20 mph limits and signs or cycle paths that cost a fortune and are rarely used.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. Spaces for People (20mph) and Cycling, Walking and Safer Routes (cycle paths) are fully funded from the Scottish Government who are investing in these areas.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes to second bullet point.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% increase is acceptable, but I don't agree with making it more than that. You seem to have identifies plenty of savings that can be made.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support a council tax increase of up to 10% (I am band E). I expect services to be of a very high quality if that is enacted, however. Parks should be clean, streets should be clean and free from litter, waste should be uplifted in accordance with diarised times (no additional charges for garden waste, EVER), school services should be available such as breakfast club, free meals for all kids (studies in the health service have shown that means testing for free meals in counterintuitive). ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	For all i care, sell all your buildings and have your staff work from home, and reduce your management numbers significantly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has introduced a hybrid working pilot however the majority of council staff, due to the nature of their jobs, cannot work from home. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, agree an increase may be necessary to protect key services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Any increase should be limited to 3-3.5%, there should be more action taken on no payers.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support a higher level of taxation, for spend on climate change indicatives, and on social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes. Council taxes should be increased to the level required to provide adequate social services. Against an inflationary cost background of c.10+% raising council tax by just 3.5% is clearly insufficient, and trying to find "savings" to make up the shortfall will only lead to our services being gutted, which in turn will lead to an additional cost burden in the future given the impact this will have on our inhabitants. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I definitely do not support an increase in more than 3.5% council tax- paying more for less services? In the time we have lived in Livingston the place is certainly not looked after the way it was in the early 80s - also a time of austerity and financial crisis- there were beautiful plants and well kept verges - a place to be proud of. There have been questionable waste of money -eg 20mph signs in villages.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The increase seems fair. Its a small amount to help ensure continuity of service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would you support an increase of more than 3.5% if all funding raised above this was spent on key identified priorities, such as schools and social care? Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would not support a rise above 3.5% especially is some of these ridiculous plans come into force	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As long as inflation is high then i see no problem with a 3.5% increase in Council Tax.; ; communities will react better to increases if they can see what money is spent on. If 3.5% is applied and we see less staff more technology what is the money being spent on, if in turn there is more "management" people will see this as a bad spend.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would agree to the 3.5% rise if the money raised was used to fund education and children's services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of 3.5% or more if it meant there were less cuts elsewhere and support was provided for lower income families. There are many families that can absorb an increase such as this to limit the impact on our social care and schools due to budget cuts, but not to the detriment of the families that already require financial support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, pensions are going up with inflation (circa 10%), people expect to pay more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase if it meant my children received a better education.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	happy for an increase if services are improved	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support an increase subject to improved governance and clarity being provided of where money has been spent and the impact (positive or negative) it has had. I would want to see improved communication from the you clearly showing a breakdown of how much money has been spent and where.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support it if it went to key areas such as healthcare social care and education. A 4% rise would be the max though as it is hard enough making ends meet with the cost of everything rising except our incomes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Paying a bit more should not be an issue to most people when it is clear that the money is well spent and going to services that improve the lives experience of everyone in West Lothian, whether they use those services directly or not, e.g. I've never visited the Deer Farm at Beecraigs but it improves the area and offers opportunities that are invaluable and hard to measure just by money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'd support an increase but not if school transport services are cut!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Only to be expected in this present climate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase but not to 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an annual increase of 3.5% as there are no other reasonable options.; I would not support an increase above this just to spend on identified priorities as they priorities always relate to schools and children - something that, for me, already receives sufficient funding.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support higher Council Tax. I can afford to pay more, and more importantly tax has not kept pace with inflation for 15 years because of misguided Scottish Government policy. If staff are to get high pay awards then we need to pay for that. I would support more than 3.5%.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, if spent on key identified priorities schools and social care. etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If the Scottish Government hadn't frozen council tax rates for 10 years and more we wouldn't be in this position now!! Small increases each year would have helped now the public is being asked to pay much more. I would support an increase as long as extra funds raised were properly utilised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax needs to be increased as the policy to freeze council tax has proved to be a disaster.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support an increase of nothing more than 4%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If it's used for the right things	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a higher increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support a raise in council tax, keep the funding for leisure facilities. This is a place of social interaction for older people	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	i think council tax should be raised as long as services are not cut to levels where council tax is not justifiable as in not worth it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax should be increased but not higher than 3% a year, the council do increase the amount they pay out in contracts by more than 3% a year so should not increase money due to them at a higher rate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase of 4.0% would be acceptable but not more than that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% increase would help keep the council services going and we would rather see our local community centre stay open than have nothing at all. Nursery facilities are well provided for as things stand as are schools in west lothian compared to other areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase beyond 3.5% should be considered. Increase should reflect increased cost in providing these core services as a result of the cost of living increase. An increase in line with current rate of inflation would be appropriate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If it prioritised schools. Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	But, apart from all staff who will lose their jobs based on your wider proposals, I can't see you having salary costs increasing for those that remain by less than 5% (based on current union strikes & prevailing salary increases). So if your your main cost is going up by this much then surely Council tax needs to match this?; If you can achieve this then maybe Schooling doesn't need to play such a big part in your reduction proposals?;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think council tax will need to increase .; An increase of 3 5% every year is a trifle worrying ...but I have no ideas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think 3.5% is fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase but I would expect results to be readily noticeable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5 is fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes it needs to increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As long as the increase is kept low it is to be expected.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes but it would need to be reasonable, EG not doubled	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I recognise there needs to be increase but not happy that it has to happen.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes.; I would support 2% where I was absolutely assured that the money was ring fenced for named purposes. I will not buy into use of discretion through words like "identified priorities".	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of 5% to council tax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase if services were made more efficient. I dont support an increase if massive cuts in services will still go ahead despite this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Sadly, I don't think there is any alternative to not increasing council tax by at least 3.5%. If it means retaining a decent standard of school, social care, roads and waste services then I would support a slightly higher increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an annual increase, as long as average wages across the council were also raising by at least the same percentage.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support the 3.5% rise but no more than that. We need to pay for services but we need to recognise that most tax payers are struggling. There won't be extra money if people default on payments.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It would be difficult but I would pay increased Council Tax (which has been kept artificially low for years) if it meant the money would be spent on helping poorer people, BUT, there must be information provided to the public, as to where this extra Council Tax money would be going. I would want to know exactly where all this extra revenue would be spent. People need to know they have a say in this. Especially when we are expected to foot the bill.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The annual budget report has information on each service budget, along with detailed information in service activity budgets.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	You're supposed to be the grown ups here. You can't ask how to bridge a budget gap without investigation of the budget. Where did the apparently arbitrary figure of 3.5% come from to set the increase in the budget? Is that historical? Inflation based? Copying another council who are more efficient? Why 3.5%? My dad always said he loved paying more income tax- because it meant he was earning more. He was happy to give back more. I'm not being sarcastic, he meant it. He was a social worker, good man. I've never thought of tax as a bad thing. I'm happy to pay my fair share to make sure we're working as a society. But times change. Politics is so very different. I'm very jaded as to the cost effectiveness of our country and council leaders. They lie to us. I want to pay more tax money to good people who will do good things with it. I don't want to pay more tax money to bad actors who cream off from every transaction they set up. The will is here but the trust is gone. I'd pay an extra 5% increase if I thought it would be honestly distributed. Maybe 10%. I think my council tax is £135 per month. I'd gladly pay another £14 to the council in an alternate universe where I trust the leaders.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. All council tax raised is used to deliver local services and affordability is a consideration when setting tax levels.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As much as I don't want to pay more council tax, I would rather pay the small increase than suffer the significant cuts needed if the extra income isn't raised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support increased Council Tax to support schools and social care. ; I also think the Council could do more in their consultation to highlight the greater significance of the Scottish Government grant offered to the Council each year and whether or not that is set to increase as well . In addition , the Scottish Government should also be consulting residents to explain their grants and ask for opinions, given their contribution currently amounts to 81% of the money available for service provision.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. Initial information from the Scottish Government is that funding for local government is set to be frozen in coming years despite substantial increases in costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support increasing council tax as long as help was available for households in financial difficulty and as long as the money generated is spent wisely.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a modest rise of above 3.5% as long as the money was spent on schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not be opposed to an increase in council tax as long as the money saved went to preserve the valuable jobs within primary schools. ; Livingston for example in terms of its environmental situation is in a terrible mess - dual carriageway untidy and unkept as is many areas (long grass/untidy)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support this as long as the funding raised was indeed spent on key identified priorities such as schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If it was spent on key priorities I would 100% back this, but households are not earning enough at present to cope with this increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think the biggest issue with council tax, and council funding is the impression of the available funding being wasted. I have no real objection to a 3.5% council tax increase, with the cost of living and pay rises for key workers needing to increase, they ultimately so with council tax. However, my children play tennis in Kirkton Park, Bathgate. I noticed a few weeks/months ago that there were new bins in the park. The bins were not basic bin, but bins that talk to you for putting rubbish in. I would assume that there is significant surcharge on "talking bins" and would far rather we had less of these to spend more money on education, social care, christmas lights.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The new bins compact waste allowing savings to be delivered in employee time emptying bins less often. This has delivered a saving for the council, demonstrating efficiencies in service delivery.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think the biggest issue with council tax, and council funding is the impression of the available funding being wasted. I have no real objection to a 3.5% council tax increase, with the cost of living and pay rises for key workers needing to increase, they ultimately so with council tax. However, my children play tennis in Kirkton Park, Bathgate. I noticed a few weeks/months ago that there were new bins in the park. The bins were not basic bin, but bins that talk to you for putting rubbish in. I would assume that there is significant surcharge on "talking bins" and would far rather we had less of these to spend more money on education, social care, christmas lights.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The new bins compact waste allowing savings to be delivered in employee time emptying bins less often. This has delivered a saving for the council, demonstrating efficiencies in service delivery.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would support an increase of more than 3.5% if all funding raised above this was spent on key identified priorities such as schools & social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Inflation is 10% so anything less than this is a real time cut. Harsh as it is West Lothian is becoming more affluent and a suburb or Edinburgh. Why not raise council tax a bit more? Not necessarily 10% but 3.5% is very low.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a raise of more than 3.5% to deliver key priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase by 4.5% each year for the top bands to generate further income and reduce the number of cuts	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support an increase - it's unsustainable to expect fees to remain the same	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase tax as much as possible to maintain the current education budget. Education is already on a tipping point and I fear that the severity of your cuts would push it over the edge.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	First point is that I am not interested in a comparison with England (or any other part of the UK) only Scotland. I do support an annual increase in council tax. However it has to be fair, what the council and SG need to consider as that peoples circumstances change. I.e. just because a person/family could afford a property, banded E or above 20+ years ago, does not necessarily mean that they can afford the council tax charge that that property now has. Circumstances could have changed and they could have struggled to keep hold of that property. Most likely that they've had family that have now grown and moved out. and there's maybe only one or 2 people now left in that house. Why should they have to pay the same amount of money for services that they don't use? They effectively could be paying the same as a family of 5/6 with more than one adult working. Just because someone stays in a property doesn't mean rising costs are easy for them. Namley in relation the recent changes by the SG and the more recent £150 everyone in band A-D got this year... No help for those above a band D. Also would like it noted that folks in a band A-D that may have extended their property, which would now fall into a higher CT band but hasn't because it hasn't changed hands and been affected by a band change. These things are never taken into account and people who could well do with a little miss out as they don't tick all the boxes and others who benefit that really shouldn't! There's no need to raise it higher than 3.5%, because you plan to reduce costs in the services you mention above, earlier in the consultation...	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes increase it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As long as it improves core services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think 3.5% is fine but only if pay increases to match or exceed this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The pay award for 2022/23 was agreed at a level higher than the increase in council tax. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase in fees is necessary but over a 5 year period any increase over 3.5%pa is a burden. What reserve funds do you have and have you any plans to utilise them.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has the lowest unallocated general fund balance of any authority in Scotland. By law the council must have a balanced budget. The council is required to identify recurring budget savings or increased income and can only use one off resources (or reserve) funds for a temporary period to provide time for recurring items to be delivered.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes - if investment was transparent and good services delivered. However, given current cost of living crisis, which is likely to continue, what is the financial impact of an increase in those failing to pay?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase in council tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Strongly support a rise in Council Tax, particularly for more expensive properties	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would not support an increase of more than 3.5 % as at the moment don't see value for money with council services. Find different service providers by different procurement.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support a 3.5% increase but worry that above this is not affordable given the rising cost of living and not same increase in wages (I work for the nhs). Groceries cost more and utilities a huge amount more than ever before.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If funding was spent on things like supporting the children with ASN who are increasingly being allocated to mainstream settings rather than receiving specialist support I would be in support of a Council Tax increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase if the money was not wasted. People are going to go through a tough time over the next few years, many families will be alarmed by a 3.5 % increase in council tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	In the current financial climate I would not support more than a 3.5% rise. Given the amount of new build going on in West Lothian, I would have thought this would have significantly increased council income.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support a council tax increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would be supportive of increases in excess of 3.5% if it meant protecting services such as Education and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	While no one wants to have to pay more, the council's proposed 3.5% increase would be significantly less than inflation so would support this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council Tax increase is inevitable.; I would expect 3.5% is too low and the Council will be expected to help out people on the bread line; Nevertheless the Council should clearly identify where Council Tax is spent.; This includes current Tax revenue	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree to Council tax increases above 3.5% especially to higher priced properties.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I feel our council tax charges are in line with other similar area charges	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support the increase if it was spent on schools, emergency services, mental health, the elderly, all people who need help and need the money.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increasing the Council tax is OK, but as per your last question about charging for garden waste uplift it seems we are being hit from both ends. I am a single person and only one pension and while i get the single persons allowance these days any increase would be hard. How would I fill the gap? As I said before we need to bring revenue into the area. West Lothian needs to be modernised and made more appealing to the wider community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support the proposed 3.5% increase in council tax. Due to the other increases in the cost of living I would not want to commit to supporting an increase above 3.5% at this time.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes.... i support an increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes - with transparent reporting on expenditure and investment.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Think 3.5% is okay.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would agree if spent on social care	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Happy to pay more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No issues	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Do not support an increase over 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes totally	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support a bigger increase of it was used for things such as schools and social care	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	we would just have to pay up ,what new	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Harsh, but understandable but don't do this and charge extra for garden waste	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support an increase if it is spent on key identified priorities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree to the 3.5% per year increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support a rise if it was for a targeted area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Well done WLC.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree, it will be difficult for some but in reality increases in council tax are very minimal (probably less each month than most people pay for coffee each day).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would support a higher increase, although I'd rather see reform to the council tax system but that's not in WLC's gift I imagine.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I am fine with it	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Maximise the rise	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support an annual increase of 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of 3.5% but no higher.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No support for an increase above 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support increases beyond 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Possibly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Needs must	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Very nice and good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	has to be done	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Schools yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support a small increase of more than 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If need be to safe somewhere ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would just like to comment that I don't envy the Council having to make these cuts and they will not be popular. It would be worse if Scotland was Independent!!! I cannot believe the state of the country just now under Scottish Government. If they would concentrate on the day job!!! I am very depressed with this consultation. If cuts are needed then so be it. IO know WLC are looking aheads but what a mess!!!!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If it has to go up then it should do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Sounds like a reasonable approach.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes agree with 3.5% is mitigations for those on lower incomes are appropriately promoted and supported.; If there was an increase about 3.5% I would hope that this funding is directed to Education in the first instance to reduce the savings required in education for example reducing the requirement for reduction in teacher contact time etc. However, this would need to be appropriately monitored and reported so that the public know exactly what that additional council tax has funded and its outcome (for example devolved school management budget and then delivered *(redacted) attainment).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% is enough not a penny more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I dont see they are many alternatives other than to increase council tax by 3.5% or more if necessary. Otherwise we lose more staff, workload increase and morale plummets...and the result is poorer services to the public.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support the annual increase reluctantly.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	increases are acceptable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would not support more than 3.5% council tax rise.; Hard to ensure increase goes directly to priority services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't agree a higher increase should be spent on schools and social care. A 3.5% increase per year will be fine and makes sense. If the council tax is in the lower quartile, then a gradual increase of 3.5%, 3.75%, 4% and 4.25% spent in the manner it is now would make more sense. This should then be dropped down to a more regular rise as required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	; 2. Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	1. I support the annual increase as the need for service is also increasing.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase but feel 3.5% is quite high considering the effect of the current cost of living crisis on individual households.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes within reason	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I Wouks pay more to council tax if it went to key areas- health and education, but it would also depend on what happens with government tax. You either need to increase council tax or look to raise rents on council properties, but fell you can't do both as to much for some people.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support an increase in council tax to safeguard schools. If the Scottish Government had not foolishly frozen it for so many years we wouldn't be in such a predicament. As long as people are able to afford such increases.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree with 3.5%; Possibly could support a small amount over 3.5% if it was invested in key identified priorities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree to increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think the 3.5% increase is essential as further cuts other than reducing unnecessary staff would be detrimental.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support higher increases in order to prevent the removal of service provision in some areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, if used on schools and care	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of more than 3.5% if it was determined that it would support services such as education.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Dont support above 3.5% rises without council looking inwards first	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If it has to go up then it should do.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increases of more than 3.5% would only be acceptable if it was clear what the funds were raised for and that there was no prospect of funding being available from elsewhere (i.e. government).	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills. The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% increase per year would best at this time, with the cost of living crisis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would only support an increase of more than 3.5% if all the funding was spent on agreed priorities that must stay the same over a specified period eg not changed after a year	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a 4% increase is it means better funding for social care and schools	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support allocating to education and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do agree but, given current situation re inflation and general rise in prices, which will impact the Council, the increase should be higher?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Putting everyone's council tax up spreads the cost. It is better to spread these costs than for some people to lose their jobs.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I CERTAINLY DO NOT support a rise of more than 3.5 pc for all the reasons listed plus it wouldn't get spent on schools that's just a ploy to get people (who all care about education) to agree to pay more. ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Should set a range of 3.5% -5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Painful as it is, the money has to be found somewhere and we all have to contribute to society to get the benefits. We're pretty lucky compared to many countries as it is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'm happy to pay more council tax if it is spent on benefiting everyone and not just those who create a fuss or a social nuisance.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax should increase in line with inflation. Why wouldn't it?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do support an increase however, the key identified priorities would need to be increased to increase leisure services and community inclusion organisation funding.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	i AM ON BOARD WITH THAT INCREASE.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Appreciate that the council is also having to deal with rising costs and the proposed increase of 3.5% is less than the current inflation rate. If the 3.5% rate is agreed council should consider the option to review, and possibly reducing the rate of increase, in future years if the financial position allows.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax increases are agreed annually by law. Consideration is given to affordability and budget requirements when setting levels each year.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of more than 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Good idea - but if you do, you cant then expect residents to pay for things like green waste collection that helps with climate action which you are wanting to imporve.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Very good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	NO issue with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes: - I support a 3.5% increase to vital services that we require.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I support an increase in council tax to pay for essential services. Unsure if I support increase of over 3.5%.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, increases are fine, but likely to lead to an increase in non payment. Effective and consistent pursuit of recovery is required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes support increase - there should be no impact to key areas such as schools and social care	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't mind if CT increases.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	ok - support	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree - people are inherently selfish and dont want to pay more but if we want decent public services everyone needs to contribute	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	YES	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yip	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes support small increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% sounds reasonable	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes definitely. Increase the Council Tax and generate some much needed income !	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5 % seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would support this rise.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Fine	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	i would support the increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes. If the money is going to social care and schools I would back this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Very happy with this	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support the council's budgeted increase so long as it is not over the country's inflation rate.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Good	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support this proposal.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Tax more....we need to contribute to make it work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I would not support an increase of more than 3.5% as there is no guarantee the council would actually spend the extra money wisely.; Presently I believe the building known as the Civic Centre has become since COVID an empty shell with people still working from home. What does the council propose to do with this?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. We will review our property assets and rationalise usage where possible taking into account the review and redesign of services delivered in the community and investigating opportunities for coordinating availability of facilities. This includes new opportunities arising from hybrid working.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I agree with an increase to support key identified priorities not to fund the Provost or other Elected Member offices or for the renaming of libraries etc.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase of *slightly* more than 3.5% would be acceptable. But proceed with great caution - the cost of living crisis is already hurting a lot of folk and it's going to get worse before it gets better.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Support increase - but no more than 3.5% due to ongoing cost of living crisis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of more than 3.5%, but I also think you might struggle to get support for much more than 5%.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The issue is that wages are not increasing for most people by 3.5%. This increase would add to the cost of living crisis for families. I support the council focussing on key areas such as education and identifying more areas that can be transferred, or stopped, before I support an increase in council tax. For example the animals at Beacraigs, stopping brown bin collections if the recycling centre is kept open as an alternative. Furthermore the population of the area is rapidly growing in part due to new build houses - these developments should only be supported if the increased demand in services can be afforded. People making money from the area should pay more to support services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% increase is a fair amount to raise future Council Tax charges I feel a greater increase would penalise those whose income is currently just above the level that they would be entitled to means tested benefits.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Ok - agree that an increase in rates is needed, but it won't be popular, particularly during this time where there are rising costs for people everywhere	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support additional tax if the money was used locally	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. All money raised through council tax is used to deliver services in West Lothian.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase the council tax (or bring in a charge for rubbish lifts based on amounts being taken)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The council tax should have went up year on year instead of a vote collector	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raise it for God sake and stop cutting vital services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% year over year adds up pretty quick, but in the current economic situation this is not unreasonable.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Only if it was spent on schools and social care	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support but during a cost of living crisis how are those who are just about managing (e.g. outside the benefit system) expected to contribute more of their already dwindling income?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes but that depends on any increase on people's wages	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Definitely disagree with additional over and above 3.5% people cannot afford and are making choices to eat or heat, not just low income but into middle classes also.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a council tax increase of more than 3.5% if this allows the council to continue to deliver vital services and invest in new technologies needed to deliver outputs with reduced staffing resource	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes - if targeted directly to these services and not derailed into other projects	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If we had never had the Council Tax freeze then a smaller annual increase would have meant that many if these choices would not now have to be made. I agree with an increase in Council Tax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Happy to support an increase provided the additional funding is used for protecting key priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a 3.5% increase on Council tax provided the money was directed to those priority areas and not just keeping us in the same position as we currently are.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Saying that I would be happy for the increase as long as schools were a priority	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase but for 2 years. I would want the money spent on schools and less on social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of more than 3.5% if any excess was spent on education and social care.; My preference however, would be a revaluation of property in Scotland to reflect the actual valuable of the average property impacting on its Council Tax banding.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	PLEASE INCREASE COUNCIL TAX BY MORE THAN 3.5%. We need to pay for vital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a council tax rise of more than 3.5% if it was spent on schools or social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase council tax but do NOT cut school transport services to legal minimums or reduce the school teaching day!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council uses a priority based approach to budgeting in the identification of potential budget saving options. Many councils do not provide school transport in excess of statutory minimums, especially as all children can now travel for free on all bus networks in Scotland. In addition, the pressures facing local government means many councils in Scotland are reviewing the composition of the school day.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Realistically Council Tax needs to be increased which I accept. In order to provide services, which will increase in costs each year, funds must be collected. If there is not an increase then the budget savings amount would increase and it is already proving difficult trying to establish where budget savings can be recouped.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think an increase in council tax - would be the answer and I would support an increase of 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	fine with increases but not if it is paying for keeping 5 CRCs open or paying for Rail concession	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. There are savings proposals identified for community recycling sites and rail concessions.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would personally support a 3.5% rise if additional funding was spent on key areas, especially schools and social care. I do appreciate the general pushback that would arise from this though.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a rise IF I could see, and was clear about, the exact benefits.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	There has been a ridiculous emphasis on not increasing council tax, which has been part of the reason for services not improving/deteriorating. If people value council services and believe that they themselves should get a pay rise then I think they should support increasing council taxes. I support the above proposal. An increase of more than 3.5% would maybe be pushing things too far but I would support it for those in higher bands (for the same level of service as others)	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raise the council tax - it was frozen for too long so it's obvious we need to catch up now.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	LLBCC would support an increase of 3.5% subject to the conditions above.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support an increase in Council Tax of more than 3.5% if this would mean children were able to maintain current teacher contact time and vulnerable people have social work support.; ; of concern is that you highlight that 81% of spending comes from Scottish Govt Grant. Is this going to up or down? Why are we not being consulted on this?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. Based on current information from the Scottish Government funding for local government is set to be frozen during a time when unprecedented inflation means that costs are increasing. The effect of this is a real terms reduction in funding for councils. The Scottish Government is accountable for funding they allocate to councils therefore the council cannot consult on their intentions regarding public sector funding.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would only support CT rise if it was spent primarily on Schools and Social care. I do not expect to see thousands spent on renaming buildings etc.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Steady yearly increases are much better than a freeze and then a hike later.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I personally support an increase in council tax but not if its there to pay inflated top cat wages. What provisions have you got in place to say where the money will be allocated too. You have to understand when the Public are seeing the troubles in WM and how they mismanage funding and its benefits for those at the top. Can we be reassured that this isnt being replicated in Council services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Salaries are determined at a national level. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase tax for those who can afford it. If tax is used for schools and social care and not being spent on roads where nothing even changes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If council tax was increased i would like to see the roads maintained, the bins and Recycling maintained and staffing reductions within the council kept to a minimum	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes would support.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Support 3.5%.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes to the 3.5% increase however I am not a WLC resident.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The SNP should never have frozen the council tax in the first place. Council services have suffered over the past decade and a bit. Raise the tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would be in favour of increasing council tax if there was a specific benefit in doing so. For example the council has approx 90 schools. Assuming that a school lasts 90 years, then one each year should be replaced (most recent new schools have been additional schools with the exception of Cedarbank and Beatlie). A school is more likely to last 50 years so we should be replacing two every year and making any potential savings through co-location and revised catchment areas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	In principal the council agrees with this, subject to available resources to deliver new schools. New schools built in recent years have been fully funded by developers. There is likely to be more opportunities for consolidation as the school estate matures.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes but what is the value of arrears & how are you driving to ensure compliance. It's not fair to keep penalising the compliant the the breachers continue to get away with it. Before there was any increase I'd like to see more effort in achieving compliance	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would absolutely support an increase in council tax in order to maintain key services such as education and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes and yes. Children and those most vulnerable are worth paying for. But not if the Social Care funding is going to profits for a 3rd party provider.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If a small increase is needed to maintain services and council workers salaries then I would agree with that.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase all bands everyone is struggling with cost of living.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raising council tax by 3.5% per annum will be insufficient given predicted inflation rates. The rate should be infation indexed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	In the current cost of living crisis, I would not support and increase of more than 3.5%. It may only be 88p a week increase on average, but add that to £100+ increase per month in mortgage payments, and huge increases in gas/electricity, it's extra money that a lot of people just cannot afford. Council tax is hugely expensive, and we don't get value for money as it is.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I recognise that an annual increase of 3.5% is required to council tax. I wouldn't support an increase above this level at this time as households would really struggle to pay it. ; ; The comparison made of WLC council tax rates versus other all of the UK does not compare like with like. For instance, many other areas have 5 full school days per week rather than 4.5 days in WLC. This means that families in other areas can work full time, increasing their job opportunities and income.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. West Lothian Council has the same number of school hours as other councils, and in many cases more than the average. The council phases those hours over four and a half days but children are in school the same number of hours with schools starting earlier in West Lothian than other council areas.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes to second bullet.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Go ahead with increases but bear in mind that some council-tax payer's income is not increasing. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If necessary. Perhaps looking further into the waste I see on daily basis by council workers and such as the stupid 20 mph change for it only to revert back.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. The implementation of 20 mph was funded and determined by the Scottish Government as part of the Spaces for People Initiative arising during the pandemic.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase above 3.5 would impact hard on the large part of West Lothian with its low income population. If the cost gets too high non payment will increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I suppose the gist of council tax is that everyone should meet their responsibilities and take part; and is no doubt preferable to more job losses affecting services, where stagnant pay or reduction meets with consternation. I think at the very least council tax should keep up with inflation. Of course too high an increase will likely affect the cost of living squeeze.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase however it would need to be spend on key identified priorities. If you want people to support this you can't then cut services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% seems fair - a higher increase than this would seem difficult to justify in the face of all of the cuts which will still be required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of more than 3.5%, I'm not entirely sure what my council tax currently covers	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree. This will be income based so higher incomes will pay more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. Council tax is based on house bands not individuals' income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Finally, some specific questions! Excellent.; ; 3.5% increase, yes I support.; ; More for social care and schools, yes in principle. There is the question of the distribution is managed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support the 3.5% increase on that basis but council tax is still an unfair tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase to council tax, however this will not be the case for everyone in the authority area. If there was a clear plan or spend summary that would show exactly how these increases will be spent, that may help to promote any increase in fees.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would accept this 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Given the current inflation rate of 10%+, a 3.5% rise is not going to cut it. However in times of budget tightness for everyone, raising the council tax across the board by more than 3.5% is going to severely impact the least we'll off most, and they often struggle to access services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes it needs to be to achieve what suggested . It's hard but needed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wouldn't support a rise of greater than 3.5% in the current cost of living crisis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I think these services should be prioritised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase as sit is fair to everyone and it supports our community provision, especially for children and older adults.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support an increase of 3.5% and would consider a slightly higher rise if the money was directly targeted such as those suggested.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of more than 3.5% as like many other people, I am struggling to make ends meet.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support it being raised but would also expect the support for low income households to be very strong and widely available	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	should be done but more help should be given to people who are going to struggle to pay it and not just send it to the sheriff officers and then wipe your hands of it as they have a terrible attitude towards these tenants who have fallen into arrears often putting them in a worse condition than they were in the first place	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council Tax is something one would expect to be raised in line with other local councils. ; ; Only in agreement if school hours were not reduced and care in the community was prioritised.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree to increase if we saw the money going put back into schooling and or surrounding areas being kept well	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of more than 3.5	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would support an increase in tax to meet the council's needs to support our community.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support this increase if it 100% went into the education system/schools. This is not sn are which should be comprised	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% and no more- people cannot afford it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The increase should remain at 3.5. People are struggling with high energy and food costs so this amount can't go higher!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes as long as the money is going to the right areas	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Any increase in council tax should be spent on key identified priorities such as schools and social/health care. This is a very tough economic situation we are in but education and health/social care needs to be protected. ; ; I would support an increase in council tax of 3.5% and a review on an annual basis. If education/health/social care was at risk I would support an increase of more than 3.5%, reviewed on an annual basis with full transparency on how the increase in income was spent.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Some increase is to be expected if at a reasonable rate	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am happy to pay increased council tax, it is lower than other Councils. An additional increase above 3.5% up to 5% would be fine if the money was ringfenced for education - i would happily support this. This is because your cuts are predominantly affecting child education and experience. Social care hasnt been targeted so the arguement to ring fence additional costs has not be made for this.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Social care measures for adults are subject to a separate consultation from the Integration Joint Board.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Put council tax up - sliding scale depending on area etc - have a fair system for those who can not pay it but bear in mind that many can and want to.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands, no adjustments can be made for geographical location. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raise 3.5 %	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wouldn't support more than 3.5% increase, people are being faced with increases on utilities, food, fuel with no payrise to counter increase in inflation. A larger increase would further push people into poverty.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raising council tax by 3.5% is reasonable especially if people want their services to stay the same.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase has to be more than 3.5% given current inflation levels but should not be more than average salary increases	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5 acceptable. Any more would need guarantee/ring fencing to ensure spent on social card etc. also need to be monitored	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Asking people, most of whom don't work with income generation, certainly not to the tune of £17.9 million, how they would raise that amount of money is unfair to say the least! ; I would support an increase if it means that key services, including west lothian leisure funding, were not cut.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Recover monies from people who do not pay their council tax. It's not fair that the hardworking people who pay the council tax have to pay more each year. If it must rise then yes funding should be spent on schools roads social care. Not taking bins or more path signs which are not essential	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity. The new bins compact waste allowing savings to be delivered in employee time emptying bins less often. This has delivered a saving for the council, demonstrating efficiencies in service delivery.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We have been told by the Chancellor that there will be no change to the level of income tax relief during the time frame you have mentioned. This means that people will actually have less money in their own pocket but continue to face increased costs just to maintain their current quality of life. I don't think you can seek approval of more than 3.5% per annum on council tax - it is not realistic. Remember that the majority of the people working in the private sector do not have the same salary as those in council employ. Times have changed.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. Income tax announcements by the Chancellor relate to England only. Evidence shows that public sector pay is less than private sector employment for comparable work. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support the council being completely transparent with the cashflow in excel format. I would support increase in taxes right across the bands not just on arbitrary made up bands. If the sum total of outgoings is greater than income its pretty good dam simple. You don't need an MBA to workout what good looks like. Noone has an infinite cash pot but at the same time noone wants to live in a soulless, dirty town/city where there is nothing for different age groups. Where there is not social aspect to the community. ; ; Like I said earlier central government force councils to hold back for far too long by at least 3 years. They have got a lot to answer for but similarly you allowed that to happen. Central is also accountable for many things including the redistribution of wealth to local authorities but there needs to be far more engagement.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The current council tax legislation means that any The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point. proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. The council already provides detailed information on income and expenditure and the budget gap in the annual budget report considered by Council each February.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It seems unfortunate but necessary. Education and social care have to be prioritised. The lack of support workers in the current care crisis cannot go on	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Annual increase is fine however I know I can not afford a large increase. And I will not be the only one. Everything is going up and it's a scary place to be just now.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of 5% if it meant schools getting more staff in the school itself.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I would support this rise but would hope to see obvious improvements in social care and schools.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It is essential that the council looks to maximise income from council tax and I would support increases of 5% per annum for the five years. Councils in England are looking at 5% increases and a rise of 5% would reduce the savings required from services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think that even in the current economic climate an increase in council tax is essential to ensure the continued provision of essential services. ; Having previously worked in the NHS I know that you cannot keep making cuts without affecting services and customer/client satisfaction. ; Rather than becoming WLC becoming an organisation that merely reacts to complaints to deal with issues, it would be wise to be upfront and clear about costs. We are not stupid and if for example you make it clear that with a 3.5% increase A,B & C can happen but if we make it 2.5% we lose B, or at 4% we gain D, then this helps us as consumers so agree or disagree with a suggestion within the consultation. Too vague and people won't know what they are being asked to comment on and what they might gain or lose.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Put up council tax, that's what it's for. The UK are a wealthy nation and should be willing to pay to have these services. I say that as someone who lives on a modest income. If we want the services free at the point of access we need to pay for them through tax.The most vulnerable will be protected from a council tax rise through access to council tax benefit.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree to this proposal and if it were to be ring fenced with transparent reporting on where it was spent I would agree with more than 3.5 %	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree...if it is ringfenced with transparent reporting	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes - we have to protect school funding. If we let our children down - what future does any of us have? Similarly we need to protect our vulnerable and I support the need to fund social care. ; ;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I have no issue paying more council tax if it supports service delivery especially around schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No major issue with paying more tax if it means services are maintained	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of more than 3.5%.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, we should raise council tax in line with inflation which is currently 6-10%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't mind paying tax if I feel my taxes are being used well, wisely and I can feel the benefit. It's not my job to suggest how council budgets are allocated, so please don't ask me. ; However, schools and social care are priorities I can agree with.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support an increase in CT levels. Press for a revaluation as banding levels are massively outdated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support a small increase in Council Tax to support the delivery of vital services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a slightly raised council tax to improve services such as schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support higher Council tax levels but the council needs to ensure that money is being used effectively and focus on key activities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax increases should broadly reflect general annual increases in wages, pensions, benefits etc.; 3.5% is appears reasonable for 2023/24, possibly higher if the increase in average incomes exceed 3.5%; An extra 0.5% might be justifiable if the amount raised is ring-fenced for key identified priorities.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support a council tax increase of up to 10% you can spend the extra revenue it as you see fit	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Tax more....we need to contribute to make it work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes. Seems fair to put up the council tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I have no issues with paying more council tax, particularly as the past few years of underfunding have had very negative consequences which will cost us far more in the future than if these services were adequately funded and provided.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think 3.5% is a reasonable change. Council tax is a massive cost for every household already.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% is a fair rise as long as services are protected as much as possible.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes I support increase in council tax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a 3.5% increase, not sure about much more as people are already struggling but hopefully by time this would be in energy bills will be reducing again for spring and summer use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree 3.5% increases pa.; ; Any increase greater than 3.5% would be justified if linked to meaningful and evidence-based outcomes. Particularly, where spend is applied medium-longer term to address the root causes of our key problems - child poverty, low-income households, food/fuel insecurity.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I'd pay more council tax and support those who could afford it to do so.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Supportive of the 3.5% increase. Increases of more than 3.5% should only be made on higher bands if at all.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would support an increase of Council Tax by 3.5% or more. It is vital that services such as schools and social care are supported with adequate funding.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If there was a plan in place to provide further funding to schools and social care I would agree to an increase in council tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% increase acceptable , however there should be more stringent checks on the households receiving discounts.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support it if the money was spent on essential services and not on poorly identified areas where money is wasted because of better perceived money saving ideas.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax should be increased but the current banding model is not appropriate and should be based on individual circumstances	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	we need to increase council tax, 3.5% is fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of 3.5% or more as I know where the money goes to and crucially, I would be able to afford it. However, for the public it may be beneficial to do regular updates on improvements made using this increase and highlight how it has helped their community more. At the moment, and I believe this is the case for most local authorities, many members of the public will see a large increase in council tax as just going to staff who "sit around all day". Highlighting benefits, showing the public major project milestones as they occur and improving services would help with this perception	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase, even over 3.5%, with the provision stated.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	A slight increase could be ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase IF the money raised was spent on key issues and IF everyone was paying their council tax.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity. The council must provide council tax reduction and discounts in line with national legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	would raise 3.5% not everyone uses schools or social care that pays tax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase of 3.5% would be expected, higher increase would be unmanageable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, I would not be supportive of an increase of more than 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is reasonable.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If service quality is there yes I'm willing to pay. But there needs to be greater transparency and accountability.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase is fair as everyone will pay a little more into the pot for services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes raise council tax - it is a fair tax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Only if services improve	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think the 3.5% increase in council tax is reasonable. Would an increase relative to tax band be applied to bring in more income? I.e. band A houses 2%increase, higher bands higher increase. ; Wonder if a nominal , very low, charge could be applied for big houses with empty rooms (i.e. 10 pounds a year extra in council tax if you have more bed rooms than people living in a house). Might be a way to encourage people to rent a room out, host vulnerable people temporarily etc	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wouldn't like to see it go above 3.5%.; Would support it going up 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Support of 3.5% but not additional. Must remember that some hardest hit just now are in high paying council tax houses and really cannot afford more. Scottish government must raise more funding through taxes etc which do not disproportionately penalise people for their home.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes I support an annual increase in Council Tax	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support an increase in Council Tax of more than 3.5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, would be ok with a greater than 3% increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'd agree to 3.5% rise in council tax, but would any of this go towards making West Lothian look more appealing, as in helping the weeds disappear from roundabouts etc. Bucket load of money spent on "spaces for people", but pathways so over grown with weeds and bushes they are almost disappearing, making communities look untidy and unwelcoming. Maybe more money can be raised also my raising the age of the free bus pass. Retirement age has risen over the years. If someone at the age of 60 is still working, why should they get a free bus pass. Stop free use of electricity points for electric cars. Know quite a few people in high paid jobs with electric company cars that can use these for free, they can well afford to pay to charge them or charge them from home.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. Concessionary bus travel is determined by the Scottish Government. Charging for use of electric charging points is a good idea and will be investigated further.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would support a 3.5% increase of the revenue generated was spread across all services not just the likes of social and education.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If spent on schools or childrens services I would support the change.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, just do it. Council Tax being per household rather than per person reduces the impact of increases and those who struggle to pay can access support. Be clear about how it's being spent on things people care about and less is being spent through efficiencies and people will pay it. Good services need funding.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Aslong as funding was spend within the council areas then a rise in council tax is justified	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. Every pound raised in council tax is spent to deliver services in West Lothian.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support increase in council tax. If not increased, then jobs and services are at risk	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would gladly pay more council tax if it meant my child could get a school bus to school & not public transport.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If the tax goes up fine but I would expect it to be used correctly....	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If it was on schools and social care- yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would you support an increase of more than 3.5% if all funding raised above this was spent on key identified priorities, such as schools and social care? YES so would be looking for a guarantee of this given the budget cuts you are already proposing on schools, education and social care!	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. Although the council has had to make savings to balance the budget, services are improving in a number of areas (e.g. educational attainment).
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would only support an increase if it was spent on key priorities especially social care, additional needs support services in schools and other school improvements	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support an increase if morethan 3.5% . ; Services are going to be limited across the whole pf the community. ; I don't have kids at school, you're planning on charging me separately for gareden refuse. ; Money has thrown at social care and its still failing the most vulnerable people in our community. Charging everyone else is not the solution.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As a band D home owner, this increase seems fairly reasonable but for larger houses then the increase should definately be proportional.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I have budgeted for a 4% rise. Not too far off then.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support the increase and support an additional increase but only if their were obvious benefits to soical care that won't be garnered otherwise. Not just for a slightly better service.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Tax should be pegged to inflation. Why wouldn't it be?	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Regretfully, on behalf of people with a lower income, I agree that Council Tax does have to rise as planned by WLC; ; Could Council Tax on higher tax band properties rise at a greater percentage than in the lower bands?; ; Above all, we need a r-evaluation of all domestic properties so that the council property tax system can start from a fair and accurate base, but I realise this has to be a Scotland wide initiative.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	For now, I don't understand this problem well enough, so for me, this 3.5% would be a must.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree council tax needs to be increased to provide more money to the council so they can in turn provide vital public services. Those who can't afford council tax either don't pay or get a discount so are largely protected from increases.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't mind an increase in my council tax if I see what it's for.; I'd want a good reliable service from the council, good efficient quick bus service, choice of community services, efficient recycling, schools making their own decisions, and excellent social care. ; The measure of a civilization is how it treats its weakest members.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. Although the council has had to make savings to balance the budget, services are improving in a number of areas (e.g. educational attainment).
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not an issue with paying a fair amount for services as long as those fudging the system are dealt with.; ; If paying more for key priorities like education and social care how is it ensured that it will be spent in those areas.; It should also not be used to increase the profits of companies that are at present contracted to provide that care. Who even audits these companies to make sure there is quality care and value for the large sums being spent.; Outsourcing is privatising the NHS by the back door and means it is no longer true to the principles that it was setup to embody.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council has no control over NHS expenditure. The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision. Use of external contractors is vital to the delivery of social care. Without this, councils could not deliver social care services due to the high demand.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am not a West Lothian resident but supported a small increase in my own council area.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'd support the further increase if schools and social care clearly benefitted.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes - there is a good case for increasing council tax after it being frozen for so long in the past.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would agree on council tax increase if it will not be wasted on pay rise for people on 6 figure salary and bonuses and extravagance parties. Any increase in council tax would 100% should go towards education, health and transportation services only and not in fat cats pockets.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. No council staff receive bonuses or extravagant parties. All council tax goes towards delivering essential services to local communities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, only 3.5 (three point five) percent. If you a increase in your income how can that increase your funding gap if you're applying your oth expenses.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	While any increased bills are not welcome, the level proposed if not excessive and if any excess is used for specific identified causes then ok.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not mind paying more tax as I can afford it. Clearly paying more without improvements is undesirable therefore you have to have SMART goals via (preferably) a truly agile methodology.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase council tax by 5% per annum BUT only if the extra £1.5 Million is "Ringfenced" for schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase in Council Tax of up to 5%	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Definitely not more than 3.5% as we already pay a really high amount.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I feel council tax is so high, I was surprised to see the data that it's low in WL. While I family wants to incur a rise, continued investment in school and social care is important so I'd support the increase in a 'feels like we've no choice' basis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5 % seems fair	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I can understand the need to increase council tax but people need to be assured that money is being used wisely	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support higher than 3.5%. ; ; look to charge for services that are "optional" / that most residents do not use.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax needs to raise at sensible amount to allow the council to fund its services. 3.5% does not seem like it is a high enough increase	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'd support an increase in council tax to the same level as other areas in Scotland, at 3.5% per year if that is the case or higher.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Higher council tax is unavoidable, but increases should not be across the board, they should be higher for the more expensive homes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Support a 3.5 per cent increase but not beyond that. Given current costs many people will struggle to make higher payments.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes if it is to help keep and value staff particularly in education	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Schooling I agree.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Tax more....we need to contribute to make it work	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes reluctantly agree on the increase, what needs done needs done.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	ok	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It is inevitable that council tax will have to rise. People deserve a clear explanation of how much is required and what this will be spent on, rather than it looking like it is filling the bottom of a deep hole.;	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation. Council tax is the balancing item in the annual revenue budget of the council. Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is inevitable. Clear communication is needed as to where this is going.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Happy to pay if used correctly	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would be happy to pay increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I suggest the council charges property developers more to increase its income. If you are going to keep agreeing to land being developed then the whole of West Lothian should benefit by these developers giving more back. ; If you keep increasing the Council Tax it will lead to a lot more people not being able to pay and the council will have to pay more money to try and recover the money via Sheriff Officers. ; I would be happy to pay 3.5 if it was spent on schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, I would support an increase in CT	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax increase is better steady each year rather than a freeze and then a high increase.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree that it should rise in principle year on year. However it should be a gradual rise.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Aa above, where the Council can increase funding, including Council tax, it should seek to do so	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Support increase if goes on services	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of more that 3.5% if ALL funding was spent on schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Gradually increase CT ie next year 4.5%. Less than this will damage council services.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase in Council tax would benefit us all. 88p per week is the equivalence of a postage stamp.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Agree fully on a council tax rise and so does my husband.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council Tax is a difficult issue for me. I am happy to pay more	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think that a modest increase in the council tax is required.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council Tax: I'm ok with CT rising by 3.5% each year until 2028. ; I would support a increase in more than 3.5% if it was to be used for schools.; I would support an increase of more than 3.5% if the money was used to keep a decent level of transportation connectins which in itself helps with social connections and care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I fully support an annual increase of 3.5%, and would support a further rise to 4%, on the proviso that this is reviewed following the easing of the current financial crisis in three years time.; In three years, there should be further consultation and the majority view of council tax payers taken into account.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes. I would also support an additional option on the council tax bill to make an additional one-off or monthly subscription, on top of the council tax bill, to fund anything the council wishes. Or, through a tick-box survey, support additional areas the council would like to request voluntary funding for. Allow the opportunity for the people of West Lothian who can help more to contribute more on a voluntary basis.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Council tax reform, for the suggestion provided, can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I completely support the 3.5% increase in council tax. However, I would like to see this increase also benefit me. I have lived in Forestbank since 2008 and during this period we have had our three children. Unfortunately, there is not a single decent park or playground in Forestbank where my children could enjoy playing. My children go to Howden St Andrew's Primary school and over the years I have only seen the conditions deteriorate. Since 2008 I have only seen the road conditions going from bad to worse. There isn't a single stretch of road in west Lothian that is pothole free. During winter season the gritters would only cover the main roads totally ignoring the internal roads connecting to the main roads. I strongly believe that my council tax contribution is not benefiting me at all and rather it is going towards other unnecessary council schemes.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. The council's winter maintenance service has not been reduced since 2008 and the council's road condition, especially for A and B class roads, perform well compared to other authorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not object to an increase of less than 3.5% but no more.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax but not an increase beyond 3.5%.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I fully approve of this increase in the council tax that the council are proposing and would support the council being able to make the increase more than 3.5% if this was spent on key identified priorities such as schools and social care.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes, but only for those who can comfortably afford it on decent wages	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree with the increase for those who can afford it, provided that goes to the right cause but not for those who would struggle to afford it.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The council are alright.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would only support it going up Only if you do as you say and apply it to social care as they need it the most.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would be happy with the increase if the money is ringfenced for schools and social care and for people that really need it most.	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes but I want a say where it goes	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes but I want a say where it is spent	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving and income measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	long as money gets spent used for what it's meant	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes as long as it can be used for everyone. no more increases in council tax if you don't have the facilities	1. The respondent advised that they agree with the proposal.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The people who do pay council tax regularly are as always penalised ; Let's charge them for more services, going the same way as Edinburgh council and look at the mess they are in	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We have the tenth lowest council tax charges in Scotland - so 9 councils are cheaper? Would be nice if people were receiving 3.5% pay rises to help deal with increased council tax charges. That's before we get anywhere near talking about how you expect us to pay for all of these other things too. Despicable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Given the tenuous financial situation of many families in the current economic climate, as well as the reduction in the quality and quantity of services already provided for ever increasing taxes, I would not support an increase in excess of 3.5%.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	You are saying our council tax is lower like we should be grateful. Our services are amongst the worst in Scotland too ... You get what you pay for and all that. If I'm paying a premium for services, I tell you what, I expect a premium. You would truly have a cheek increasing this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No. And certainly not without very clear evidence of where the money raised would be spent.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would not support a rise in council tax pensioners haven't even had a cost of living rise. What with gas and electric prices, fuel for car prices and shopping all up in price can I ask how do you think we can pay anymore	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Any increase at a time where the cost of living crisis is spiralling out of control is unacceptable. The council does not spend the money it gets wisely and any increase in council tax will be for minimal gain to residents of West Lothian	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I dont think there should be any increase in the council tax if all the savings stated are made why increase this tax when people cant afford it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support a rise of 3.5% in council tax. . People in West Lothian are often on the breadline and with energy costs where is the extra money for increased council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I do not wish to pay more council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not with a cost of living crisis. Put it up when energy bills are back to normal.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Absolutely not...my C tax is like another mortgage...ridiculous proposal and especially given the current climate?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	NO!!!! Times are tough. I don't care if we pay less than wherever I live in West Lothian already get a poor enough service without paying more!; I have no kids, don't use the council facilities, you fixe the roads, sweep the street and empty my bin.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No. Everyone is struggling with increased cost of living as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No council tax rise during cost of living crisis.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It is all very well to say cut staffing, raise rent and or council tax however working people do not get any raise in salary to reflect a rise in everything else needed to keep a roof over our heads.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, because I have no faith in how wisely any increase in council tax will be spent. The ridiculous green bin addition rollout is one such example. Yet the only bin everyone in West Lothian really wants is a glass bin like Edinburgh and others...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	What would you provide for this increase? Worse street lighting?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	All of this in worst cost of living crisis?!?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Sounds about right. Take away more and then charge us for it. ; How would we bridge the gap? Overstaffed management salaries sounds like a good starting point.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No our budget is already squeezed as it is more council tax for your larger houses over 500.000	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Absolutely not. I'm in a higher tax band and probably have less residual income than those on benefits because I pay all my own bills. I'm sick of seeing everything going to those supposedly on low incomes. Increases only mean the council ends up paying the council tax for those on low incomes so really mugs who claim nothing who get the brunt of every increase as usual	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As before, get your house in order before asking us for more money! The service we get is declining year after year, but for a second year you want more money. Makes no logical sense. You would not dream of paying more for a worse service anywhere else, why should we tolerate it with the council?!?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If you go ahead with the proposals in this sham consultation exercise then the council should NOT charge a single penny in council tax. Given the current state of council services, residents should be entitled to a refund of CT.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How is anyone supposed to afford a tax increase now?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With cost of living being the way it is this would not be a sensible decision. This would not be in line with salaries and is unfair and it would be hoped that there would be some support to bridge the increased budget cut. This should not be taken into considerable when paying for key identified priorities such as schools or social care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Lessen services jobs etc to save money and to increase our bills. That makes it harder for people and families to live their lives especially during the current situation with energy bills, petrol etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No. Unless it would mean that funding for education would increase	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support any increases as a family we are struggling o get by with recent increases in day to day life. However we will have no option when the council makes these changes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	There is already a squeeze on household's. There would be absolutely no support for this. The council already has too much wasted income. This is clear to anyone with any business knowledge. The council need to hire an external party to get their affairs in order.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't believe an increase in council tax would be acceptable if services were not maintained.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People are already struggling with the cost of living. Any increase just now will tip people over the edge. If energy, food, clothing bills stabilize and wages go up, it worth a review then BUT NOT NOW.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, efficiencies should be found and structural changes implemented. People are already struggling without having to pay more	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People are on their knees perhaps ask the people working for council to remember they could be the last straw. Where are people getting the money for all your planned increases.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Only increase if people can pay.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Individuals on low incomes are able to apply for a number of council tax discounts and reductions.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax is already extraordinary expensive compared to other UK areas.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	West Lothian Council's council tax is currently less than the Scottish average and considerably less than the English average council tax bill.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I couldn't afford a higher council tax increase, I struggle at the moment.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Individuals on low incomes are able to apply for a number of council tax discounts and reductions.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	On a low income and being in a band D property, council tax is already high enough to pay as well as rent and other bills which have increased. I, personally, would struggle to budget and pay these bills if it was to increase	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Individuals on low incomes are able to apply for a number of council tax discounts and reductions.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support the increase cause I didn't get a pay rise so where will I get money for that?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'd be happy to pay extra council tax if council services were actually effective and if as a teacher I was being paid to reflect this. Inflation has risen but 10% minimum however our salary has not reflected this. Whilst we are currently fighting to obtain this, I feel I would be unable to provide this and also feel with living in a poverty stricken area, there will be lots of families who just don't have the money to pay this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No council tax is expensive enough	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I have to say no as due to the overall financial situation people just don't have the ability to pay much more. Increasing with little chance of receiving amount required creates a vicious circle of increased debt for individual and council alike. Better to maximize savings as proposed and increase by a minimum amount in line with people's income levels maybe think about tiered contribution system, people earning more pay more etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, support for such actions, while Shell earned in 3 months more then in a whole previous year...rich are making money we pay for covid pandemic which now is just a flu...NHS website.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We struggle to pay this as it is! What happens when we can no longer afforded to pay this? All our bills are going up!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Conflict if you are reducing services to save money and increasing costs for services. It would make more sense to save the money to allow people to spend money and put more money into the economy.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People are struggling at the moment and the last thing we need is to raise the council tax even further. This would only plummet more people into debt. I would not support an increase of 3.5%.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think you will struggle to get people to support any rise more than 3%	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No i would not support any increase with council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	During a time when people are struggling to make ends meet, any increase, never mind more than 3.5%, will have a serious impact on people's household bills when people are having to choose between heating and eating.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Cannot support an increase in the council tax at this time when all costs of living are increasing. How does this square with providing fewer services yet increasing costs?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	England pay more but they also earn more, I don't think you can compare in this way. Not sure people are coping with cost of living eating and heating, not sure this will be high on their priority when everything else has gone up can't see any end, don't see it being affordable. Will cost you more in other services recouping your money from those who just don't have it and god knows what your mental health services are going to do!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Affordability is a consideration when setting council tax. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't mind council tax as long as it is spent wisely and for the people. Judging by all the suggested service cuts, this is unlikely therefore, I will not be happy to pay more and receive less	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	My understanding is that Council Tax money is spent on schooling, street cleaning, policing, rubbish, recycling and maintaining clearance areas. Given that the council currently charges tenants for recycling, in some instances house and garden clearance, and are already planning to reduce costs in education and given that WLC no longer pay for 21 police officers (which was stopped a few years ago). I would not welcome a 3.5% charge on council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No indeed I would not support this increase	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wouldn't support an increase of more than 3.5% and to suggest something at a time when inflation is moving past 10% is ludicrous. The council original pay offer was below 3.5% so you'd claim all of that back with this suggestion. I don't mind you increasing council tax by 3.5% but don't ever offer council employees a pay rise of 3.5% or less otherwise you're just grabbing money. If you want more money, take it from the big companies that operate within the council. The wealthiest companies should be paying more to support the communities that they benefit from. I'm pretty sure you could also look at restructuring the top part of the staff tree in the council - there'd be a lot of savings there. I've also previously suggested switching off certain street lights between certain timeframes - that would save on your energy costs. Why is your information newspaper printed in colour? Colour printing costs a lot more than B&W and most people will just recycle it when it comes in. You were council of the year once. There's a reason why you haven't ever been it since. You can conduct all the surveys you like but you never seem to listen to people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The increase in council tax for 2022/23 was substantially below inflation, with 3.5% expected to still be considerably below the rate of inflation. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries. Non Domestic Rates applied to businesses are determined by the Scottish Government, therefore the council has no control over amounts paid by companies.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think that is a big increase considering the amount of other increases that are happening and people already cannot cope. This will result in people not paying. I also grudge paying this when I work and live within the council and feel like everything is being cut, I'm stretched to my limits in my job and it seems like that is only going to get worse, therefore driving me out of a career that I worked so hard at to get into.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes the council is making money of each tenants by putting the council tax and rent up each year people like me can't afford it but have no choice to pay it or loose ma council house don't agree	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax is already expensive. With all the cuts being considered how can this be justified?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax huge cost to normal household - should be reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax to stay the same not go up	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not really sure what we get for our council tax, absolute waste of money. WLC is a joke	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't support it. How about getting rid of pointless management jobs, stop fixing up houses of people who wreck them. Fine people for not looking after their council property and gardens. So much wastage within the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I haven't a clue how the extra money could be raised, I just know that right now I am struggling to make ends meet. As a result, I couldn't support this as everyone is feeling overwhelmed by the financial situation right now. Wages are nowhere near increasing by the rate of inflation. Energy bills are rising at astronomical rates. Interest rates mean people are struggling to pay their mortgages and WLC is already struggling to meet the needs of its Homeless/roofless, vulnerable families etc. Foodbanks are running out of supplies and having to ration. ; ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support a council tax increase of 3.5% per annum	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Right now my council tax is 4178, 3.5% increase would mean the following year (23/24) the cost would be £4324 then the following year (24/25) the cost would be £4474 and then the following year (25/26) the cost would be £4640 and the final year (26/27) it finalise at £4802. That would be a £700 increase over a 5-year period, which is 15% more than I am paying today. Given the current economic climate and the fact that service provisions will be reduced during the same 5-year period, I cannot support this measure.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Forget it. The reason the other places are higher is because they are cities and have more amenities. I do not have the money. Stop r"£\$ and pillaging middle class. We're truly already screwed with increases in tax, NI and no pay rises. So just cut the services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This would hit people hard at a time where everything else is hitting us thanks to the conservative shambles in Westminster. Not at all in agreement for this one sorry	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Higher tax band increase I would appose. We pay highest and also have to pay green belt factor. So don't even get services we pay council	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No never, keep council tax, it's your job to find ways to find additional income.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It's a hard question to answer. A lot of residents wages won't be increasing with inflation.. As you have pointed out in your statement, most properties are in bands A-D which would infer the people in these properties may not earn a great deal. A 3.5% increase is a lot for the working poor. However, I understand that funding has to come from somewhere and if it was to be increased then I don't think it should be ringfenced for schools and social care, however important they are.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	It is noted that you agree with officers' assumptions regarding an increase in council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't agree with the 3.5% increase. Home in band E upwards go no reduction this year whereas lower bands got £150. This could have been used by the council	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. The council has no discretion over the reduction or what the funding could be applied to. The Scottish Government mandated that it be used to reduce bills.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People are already on the breadline and with everything going up people cannot afford to live. A small increase might not seem much to some but to some families its enough to push them over the edge. There is no help for middle income families who try to do the right thing by working but can barely get by. No more increases. ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People on a very limited income couldn't afford increased council tax,	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would not support an increase, as I am a pensioner who cannot afford additional costs. I generally feel I pay a high Council tax at present along with factoring fees for my street. Plus cost of living has increased so there is a lot of pressure on finances all round	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wholeheartedly DO NOT support such an increase when the services we need are being cut.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We are already facing tighter household budgets at the moment due to the incompetence of the Westminster government's economic policies. Any rise in council tax would just add to this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	IN THE CURRENT CLIMATE 3.5% IS MASSIVE AND WILL LEAD TO MORE COUNCIL TAX DEBT. LEADING TO MORE LEAGAL ACTION HAVING TO BE TAKEN . THEREFORE UNLIKELY TO RAISE ANY MORE.MONEY !!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Do you think people's salary goes up by 3.5% every year?; I am sure there are other ways to save money over linear cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The pay award for 2022/23 was agreed at a level higher than the increase in council tax. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support any additional increase in council tax. As a householder in one of the highest bands and now retired, 3.5% already represents a large increase - any additional increase would increase financial strain, particularly against a backdrop of rising energy prices and inflationary pressures. We make no use of education, social care, leisure and many other facilities provided by the council yet bear some of the highest council tax charges in the area.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I dont think there should be any increases to council tax think it is high enough. Stop mucking about with new bins, 20 mile per hour road signage ect and savings can be made there	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Spaces for People was a Scottish Government initiative fully funded by them. No council tax was used for 20mph zones.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not agree with further burdening residents with unrealistic increases in council tax when the council continues to commission services with the private sectors with a primary goal of creating a return for their investors.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not agree with an increase in council tax. I would suggest reducing the cost by looking at fuel efficiency within council run building where the heating runs when it is not needed. I would suggest not re-building Letham and Riverside primary schools but maintaining the current schools.; People cannot afford this increase in council tax.; There has to be another solution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I have already listed several ways to save money, personally I could not afford a 3.5% increase. The amount of families who can afford all these increases will be very low. Especially after they all lost their jobs due to budget cuts.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Our council tax is a significant bill to meet each year and I don't think we get great value for money. I don't support the increase - think we should look for other savings.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Definitely would not support a higher rise in tax. Householders are dealing with increases on every front.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax along with other essential basic bills such as rent and gas&electricity is already too high. I do not think council tax should be increased. You will just out more people in financial hardship.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would not support increase in council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am totally against the Council's proposed effective 18% increase in Council Tax over the planning period during a Cost of Living crisis on a tax that central government has previously pledged to abolish.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I believe that the savings efforts of the Council need to be substantially accelerated and made far more robust than what I have seen so far. If not then its clear a more radical form of service provision is required that does not feature the current Council/COSLA orthodoxy and configuration as part of the solution. On basis of whats been presented thus far, its part of the problem.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Since 2007/08 the council has delivered over £152 million in savings. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Bad enough as it is, don't want to pay more council tax	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Families are already struggling with energy costs, interest rates etc. I feel this would be the wrong time to then add more financial burden with increased council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Most people are facing bills they can't manage as it is. People aren't going to be able to afford this as wages are stretched. I pay council tax in Linlithgow yet don't get investment in the town as happens in other towns.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. There is investment in every ward in the council's revenue and capital budgets.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support the rise of 3.5% in council tax. The council needs to start living within its means to go forward not constantly charge more for a poorer service. Under no circumstances should council tax be increased, it should be decreased for lowering services and ringfencing doesn't work either. Sack managers who can't do their job !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Any increase of 3.5% is problematic unless individual incomes, including the State Pension, keep pace with the increase. If energy costs, rents, transport costs, Community charges etc etc continue to rise it becomes especially difficult for thos on low income.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase individual and family income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No because this is not going to happen.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	More fleecing the people and business's and causing poverty, you people are disgusting!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	More bills put onto working families that quite simply cannot afford it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Fortunate (in some ways) to live in a band F house. The Council tax is crippling. Any increase because of the size of the bill causes yet more hardship to us as a family.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't support the increase in council tax of at least 3.5%. Why is it when councils can't manage their budget appropriately it is the household that has to pay. Where is the household to find the extra money when in a cost of living crisis, I struggle at times to understand what my current council tax pays. Councils need to be more efficient. When look at staffing levels do they need the amount of people in higher paid roles? Are there efficiencies there?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. The same cost of living crisis pressures faced by individuals and families also impact on the council. The unavoidable impact of increasing costs for the council means that the council needs to identify savings or generate additional income as the council must have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Against this as a way to bridge funding gap	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Given all the other increased this is not feasible for most families	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support as households are squeezed enough	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No to an increase - cost of living crisis will push families over the edge. See previous comment on council tax bill of more than £3,000 already!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No increase	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How can you decide to raise council tax during a cost of living crisis??? Reduce your spending rather than taking more from people who are already struggling to make ends meet	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't support an increase , however I think the money collected should be used in schools and social care	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would not support larger increase with the current cost of living increases being so significant	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No i would not support any increas ein council tax when you have just outlined all the useless services that you want to keep. instrumental music being a prime example	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	NO INCREASE IT IS CRIPPLING ALREADY	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am not happy with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not agree with an increase of 3.5% each year and I would not support any additional increase to be used within schools or care priorities. This is a key example of bad planning in previous years from both councils and politicians. I am sickened by the lack of planning and the extreme cases mentioned in this document due to leaving it so long before implementing changes..too late!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council has delivered balanced budgets each year since 1996. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. External audit and regulation provides no evidence of reckless spending or poor planning. The council's medium term approach has provided time to plan and implement changes which is not universally seen across local government in Scotland.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase in council tax with everything else that is going on ...	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	no we don't agree with council tax now its unlawful lies by the greedy government FYI no bodys money is going up how do use expect people to pay for it when government are allowing gas and electricity companies to rip us all of and put many into serious debt not to mention mortgages going up food rising to 10% inflation petrol pumps ripping us off all unlawful under the 20/30 agenda great reset sorry but no way were flipping sick of this their will be a civil war coming us against the people in high power positions	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think an increase of 3.5% is too much at a time when pay is low and cost of living is high. The 25% of properties over band D would see a substantial increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No because wages are not increasing in line with inflation	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Absolutely not. Council tax is already far top high and you can't justify cutting back on Services while increasing council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People can not pay any more with the current financial difficulties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No. We continue to pay substantially more every year for a lesser service. You used to get large item free pick ups per players now they are charged so not included. Bins are collected less often. ? Festive lights might not even be supplied by the council. We should not be paying more for a lesser service.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Please don't.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Nope. New partnership buildings did not need to be built when there were buildings already built then sold off. Remove blanket free school meals.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council has delivered substantial savings through consolidating buildings. New buildings are also more efficient, delivering savings in day to day costs, particularly energy. The council must deliver school meals in line with Scottish Government requirements which is currently universal free provision until P5.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With the cost of everything going up this is the last thing we need!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People are already struggling as it is. The Government are part of the problem.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not sure I have the complete picture here. Are we saying after all the cost savings you have discussed here? Do you still have a gap of 17.9 million in the budget if the council tax was not increased by 3.5%? People are already paying a great deal of energy costs and council tax. I don't think increasing the council tax further will be acceptable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Yes. The scope of the financial challenge facing the council means savings and increased income, either by council tax or discretionary charges, is required. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase in council tax would really be ridiculous at this time, this would undermine the benefit of any energy offset that's being applied. No one likes tax increases, but it is likely that we will be already impacted by mass tax increases this year. Council tax will just add to the difficulties.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As much as I would like to say yes, most salaries aren't increasing by 3.5% each year. Mine and my husband's included. Council tax is already one of our highest monthly household costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think we pay enough for council tax	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think we are already paying sufficient council tax without a further 3.5%	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No with cost of living g prices I don't think council tax should go up	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We're taxed through the nose as it is, can't afford to heat our homes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I would not support this	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I disagree with council tax rises in the current climate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of £3.5% or more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Unacceptable!!!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, families can't afford this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I wouldn't support a rise	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Absolutely not.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People cannot afford to pay an extra 3.5%	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not agree in 3.5% year on year rises, it really is the working poor just now.; this is a really expensive bill on top of everything else.; WLC always needs to make budget cuts and savings, think of other ways to raise the required money, as the wages do not increase in line with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The pay award for 2022/23 was agreed at a level higher than the increase in council tax. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't support 3.5% every year.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I find it difficult to support an increase in council tax when council services are going to be cut further! While I appreciate the budget gap needs to be met, most services already seem to be stretched or have been cut. I feel our local area over last year has looked a mess with cut backs on grass cutting, bin uplifts etc. local amenities have been closed or reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Give that we pay double what our neighbours pay in council tax and we get bugger all extra for it I wouldn't be happy with a rise. ; Perhaps the council workers could be treated like your average private business worker and start and finish at the time they are supposed to rather than going round picking up fellow workers and dropping them off at home time before finishing time. It's a joke. ; Also it's easy enough to get items from stores through a council worker. This must run in to thousands in unworked hours and supplies from stores	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council robustly investigates and pursues all cases of fraud.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No. Adjust your spend, we are having to do this dont add to the wider problem	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	You cannot increase council tax whilst reducing the services I use .	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Cost of living is already crippling people, they can't afford it.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No as currently many wages are not being increased in line with this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The pay award for 2022/23 was agreed at a level higher than the increase in council tax. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support the annual increase because of the current financial crisis on households. I understand that means cuts in services but households are already too squeezed to pay an additional 3.5 pc on top of soaring inflation, real wage cuts, higher interest rates and the exorbitant rise in fuel . ;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	You cant honestly raise council tax at the same time as removing funding from other vital areas!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No - this exceeds what many receive as a pay increase and will leave people unable to meet their bills.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I would not support the increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I do not support the increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	More bad news!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is scary	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I would not	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	NO	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, I wouldn't	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No , in the current economic recession & spiralling costs, I would not support higher increases	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I would not support a higher increase in the current economic climate.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No it is too easy just to increase tax, the Council need to be accountable to local taxpayers, there are always areas which can be managed more efficiently, the decisions are just hard esp when it involves letting staff go but other jobs exist.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	In current times large increases in bills would not be welcome, or even manageable, and put a massive strain on people. As both a member of staff and a member of the public in West Lothian I would prefer more savings from within the council rather than increases of more than 3.5%. Improving community engagement could help in making savings, possibly filling gaps where services are reduced.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	i am not sure i support an increase at all. service levels have dropped but the customer should pay more. this does not really sit well with me. i also can not understand where the approximately 500mil GBP is being spent in West Lothian. i am sure it must be possible to find additional savings to reduce the impact on the customer.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase if the current cost of living crisis continues. Also, I would not support if start to charge for garden waste.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would definitely not support an increase, especially if all these services are not even in place.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How would you find the additional income to bridge the increased budget gap? I think this answers your own question. Everybody is already struggling £20/£30/£40 genuinely doesn't sound a lot but it is. People are finding it difficult to make ends meet. The price of everything is going up. This will cause more people to be in dept and from there it would be a downward spiral.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increasing council tax would have a detrimental affect on working people who do not qualify for benefits - people are already struggling with pay rises not covering the increase in all other daily living costs.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not in a million years as the current facilities on offer are little or non at all including the likelihood of getting a GP appointment	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The NHS delivers health services (including GPs) and it is not funded by council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't think 3.5% increase is affordable for everyone. I think it's inevitable that there will be increases in taxes everywhere but I think the public would want 0-0.5% increase so I think a 2% increase would be better as even though it's more than we the public would want it's still a good increase.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raising council tax by more than 3.5% for whatever good cause is not acceptable in this difficult financial time. The use of food banks is at the highest level ever so no extra should be taken from people.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With current pressures on cost of living I think we should keep charges down	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Lower	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% is way too much. I again go back to the staffing at the council, this needs to be looked at from top to bottom. Too many times do you see council vans with 3/4 employees reading the paper or taking a nap. Roofers that are not allowed to work because there is a chance there may be a breeze, 6/7 employees looking into a pot hole not doing anything. How many down time hours do the council pay for on an annual basis? Too Many.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Your response in relation to staffing will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't want to pay more tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	no I wouldnt support this. As a single person I dont feel the benefit of the cost of my council tax - my street is dark - my grey bin is always full - the library is closed - the bus service is poor - Im disabled but work and have my own home so get no help - my friend who doesnt work pays less CT in a year than I pay a month and gets much more help	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, I couldn't afford it	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wouldn't support an excess in fees until I was confident that the money would be budgeted properly for the priority services. There us so much wasting of money at the moment, realigning systems need to give me confidence that it works.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council has delivered balanced budgets each year since 1996. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. External audit and regulation provides no evidence of reckless spending.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Things are unbelievably difficult financially just now. This is just morally wrong	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs or increase income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The population of West Lothian has no money as it is.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Disagree with increase as cannot see the benefit I get just now for the bill paid ; ; What is the council tax covering all I see is the bins being emptied this need protected.;	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No. As our council tax is already high as it is and with the cost of living crisis we are struggling as it is never mind increasing council tax!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We pay a ridiculous amount in council tax and the banding of E for my 3 bed semi is ridiculous. We are paying more for a reduction in services...that is not fair. We don't get any help with benefits and would really struggle to pay anymore...; I'm sure many people are the same, it's a massive amount of money every month.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No as wages are not increased by 3:5%	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	a 3.5% increase , that going to work with wages increase and inflation, your putting more people into debt and especially how aggressively you chase after people and add money and interest , you are exploiting your customer base while doing this and putting them in harms way, especially the lowest social economic group and vulnerable people	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If the council actually delivered on promises to cover council tax. Why have we no glass recycling service? Our green been has never arrived, public areas aren't always well maintained, parks on our local area are awful. Do an extra 3.5% would not be welcomed.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support this. Individuals who are working are the having the most financial difficult at the moment and this is squeezing it even further. More individuals will required support from the government or lead to increased poverty.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Until we are no longer in a cost of living crisis, council tax should not be raised. People will be forced out of their homes and the council will then have an even bigger homelessness problem to deal with.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Ridiculous to propose a 3.5% increase considering the cost of living crisis and rising food, gas, electricity, clothing and petrol prices and stagnation of wages. If this rise continues individuals will not be able to afford to keep their homes.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I dont believe a higher rise is justified until heavier management costs have been stripped back and all options exhausted	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date but continues to investigate savings and efficiencies in management structures.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I received a pay rise of 3%, we cannot afford more bills to increase at the higher rate than I am earning, it's not sustainable.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	you need to do the services that council tax is payed for feel like the way the world is right now people are struggling as it is to make ends meet just now how can they find the money for to pay more after	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	3.5% is unaffordable! I get that savings need to be made and income needs increased but this is too much. Far too much money is given to those who are perfectly able to work but are too lazy and have an easy life getting everything handed to them. I get that some people genuinely need help and they absolutely should get it but there are far too many who need to get off their behinds and stop getting everything handed to them. There's little support for anyone working and paying taxes, we just constantly get told we have to pay more and more. I have gone from being in a comfortably paid household to scraping the barrel every month just to pay the essentials. Maybe top council workers could take a hit in any wage rises planned for them to help the budget.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase is considerably below the current rate of inflation. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries. Benefits are determined between the UK and Scottish Governments. The highest paid employees (i.e. those earning above £60,000) received a flat cash increase in pay for 2022/23 which in percentage terms is considerably less than those at the lower end of the pay scale.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Currently no as cost of living too high more increases will make it harder for people to live	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is already too high and with cost of living this would not support our residents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I feel my council tax is too much for what we receive. Costs continually going up for less is a disgrace. Cut in services is getting worse.; I DO NOT agree with the teachers strike and if teachers pay is increased way above the averages of other services, it doesn't seem fair for the public and other services to suffer In proportionally.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Realistically It won't be spent on what it is needed for this is obvious around west lothian and has been for a while.; charging more for a basic service being received all ready cant be justified. To ask resident how this could be obtained if answerd no is concerning. I don't support the increase to council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, stop giving money away to folks who aren't contributing.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Most additional payments or benefits are determined by national government (e.g. child bridging payment).
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support an increase of more in this current financial crisis as everyone is currently struggling and cannot afford a larger rise	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Disagree. With the inflation raising more than 11% how do you think the householders will be able to pay for an increase of 3.5% every year. I would like to recommend every 2 years.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	; I do not agree with an increase in council tax .; Look into re-assessing all those houses with extensions who are in lower bands.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	At the current time, raising Council Tax will hit far too many people when as it stands we are ALL already worse off due to the mismanagement of UK finances via Tory government ! People are scared to cook and put heating on,some food costs have gone up by around 20% and more,now is NOT the time for raising council tax ! It seems to be that our minority led Labour council are NOT doing right by the residents of West Lothian,and it is NOT down to Scottish Government cutting budgets, it's down to WM giving less in real terms via the Barnett formula ! WLC has a cash pot set aside for a rainy day, what exactly constitutes a rainy day ? will the cashpot of around £1million be kept to raise the wages of the executive or to help the residents of West Lothian ? DO RIGHT for a change, help out the people in West Lothian !	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. West Lothian Council has the lowest unallocated general fund balance of any council in Scotland and once it has been used, it is no longer available for future emergencies or needs. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax is already to high and should not be increased anymore.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Those residents who actually pay council tax already pay enough. Current council tax is too high. The council should be looking to collect council tax from more of its residents, not continuing to take more from those who already pay. Too many freebies for too many people. Maybe that's why the population is increasing in West Lothian? ; ; It's becoming like the Health Service. You cannot continue to provide a service to more people unless they contribute. The council needs to review its strategy. ; ; I would not support an increase in the rate of council tax.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No it's okay spending on schools and social care but it's the working person that will again bear the sore end of this people on benefits who shouldn't be have no concerns as they're having it paid for them. It seems that it doesn't pay to work	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No!! does funding for schools and social care not come from issued budgets and funded from Scottish government	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. 81% of funding for schools and social care comes from the Scottish Government with the balance being funded by council tax.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Nobody can afford this. Most of the cuts already mentioned are sensible.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People can hardly afford to pay any bills - increase in Council Tax is not appropriate	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We don't all hold the government to ransom and threaten to go on strike if we don't get a pay rise ; But still earn to much and don't qualify for benefits ; Think you ask for enough council tax money ; Yous need to stop wasting money and be more productive ; Including employees	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wouldn't support a bigger rise until you can prove that you can spend the money that you get in more sensibly. Roads are atrocious...buses are often not running and I velieve the council wastes money.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Do not support an increase at all. Times are tough enough for us	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Would not support however there is no alternative	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No way to increases	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is the most unfair tax of all. The value of a house bears little link with the income of its inhabitants. It is time for the council to stop the practice of householders doubling even tripling the size of their homes and remaining in the same council tax band until their property is sold (sometimes never). I am surrounded by properties that have done just that and I am paying a higher rate band than households with 3 generations of occupants.; I do not support any increase in council tax. This tax should be linked to the combined incomes of the residents who live there.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I pay council tax yet stay next to a rubbish tip; No one willing to deal with this and rats have appeared but even then (not enough rats seemingly or where they came from); If I need to stay next to a rubbish tip then I would imagine I should pay less for my council tax not more.; ; I also stay next to a shop that is allowed drivers to wake everyone up playing music and accessing shop from 3.30 am; not just 1 van but 3 with different goods ; ; So no increasing my council tax is an insult for what I have to put up with.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I would not. Give some relief to bands E and higher. We received increase every year while bands A-D reduction. People on higher bands struggle too.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No i don't support the rise as again many families are struggling as it is without having the added stress of increasing council tax and then paying for bins on top of this.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not my job to find it ! Not I am educated to the standard the people making those decisions should be to find it so your passive aggressive there sums up this entire survey. You continue to over charge for council tax and provide very little service and the service you do provide is not up to a good standard.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. Every pound raised by council tax is used to deliver services to local communities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Again, working families are being punished enough due to tax increases and I feel if there are any more increases to council tax, families will not be able to live.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Let's see raise council tax and cut all services. Makes no sense at all. Clearly lining someone's pockets and not the peoples.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. Every pound raised by council tax is used to deliver services to local communities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If a 3.5% increase is put on council tax then there should not be extra charging put on garden waste or less winter maintenance and festive lights etc.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. If additional income cannot be generated, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	In the current financial difficulties it's too much to ask people to pay	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With everything else going up, mortgages, gas, electricity, cost of food, petrol etc no to the additional increases of 3.5% each year. People are going to struggle even more if not end up losing their houses.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Instead of council tax going up again! Help people instead of increasing their bills	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Keep council tax down when every other bill is going up this does not help families what's so ever?! ; ; People are struggling at home to make ends meet stop putting up the bills! To support schools and teachers wages, we all want a wage rise!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I wouldn't. Anyone buying a new home is in at least a band E which we are being hammered for. I am not on a high wage so struggling just now. Not fair that people in council homes that are larger are paying far less c tax when they have more dispersible income. Should be readjusting all the bands to make it fairer	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Some of us that do not get any financial help through benefit top ups can not afford council tax increases. This need to be kept to a minimum otherwise we risk losing our home and becoming homeless which is another burden on the council.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No increase. Those scrapping by each month with no financial help can not afford an increase. Why should those earning just above the benefit limit take the burden. Bands A-C should be exempt from anything above what is absolutely necessary.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Councils & COSLA need to stand up to the SNP run Scottish government who have bled councils dry over the last 14 years while managing to increase money for their own central government projects & fat cat quangos. ; Try getting the Scottish government to save money by closing down pretendy embassies abroad duplicating staff & offices that the UK government already has there costing over £9million per year. ; Perhaps the SNP run Scottish shouldn't have just given away £5 million to other countries at COP27 for climate reparations?; How much money is fed into Prestwick airport every year. Total cost circa £50 million.; £50 million costs for the malicious Rangers prosecution.; £500 million in guaranteed loans to Gupta for the Lochaber smelter that was bought by him for £5 ; £30 million on a referendum...give it a rest ; An extra £152 million for ferries that aren't even finished yet. ; Over £500 million in bad loans & investments written off by Scottish government; £2.5 billion of Covid support money gone & not accounted for. ; I think it's disgusting for the council to try and make residents pay more council tax to pay for the mistakes of the Scottish Government	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increasing by more will impact households who will then depend on other parts of the council to support them. Children will be most impacted. ; ; If the council are making huge cuts, why does the council tax also need to be increased? Huge amount of money was wasted in changing areas to 20mph then back to 30mph.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The implementation of 20 mph was funded and determined by the Scottish Government as part of the Spaces for People Initiative arising during the pandemic.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No Increase when cost of living is going up inflation 10%, savings should be made elsewhere and not by taxing the population	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax should not increase as we pay to much for to litte	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, increasing council tax, which is already expensive not a solution.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increases in council tax is just cl going to make the cost of living crisis worse for working class families.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support the increase in council tax. It increases year on year and each year we are hit with a reduction in services. Bin collections are sporadic, recycling centres never open. Green spaces and road verges are not maintained and only attended to following serious near miss or accident reports. West Lothian in general looks tired, unloved and very grotty. Too many housing developments have been granted without thought to green space, impact on existing residents or the infrastructure. Roads maintenance is non existent with all roads covered in pot holes or regularly closed /diverted traffic routes for patch repairs which last a number of weeks before needing to be done again. ; I would recommend the council reduces its number of nonsense projects and wasteful spending such as milestones, distance signage and actually serviced its residents and maintained what we currently have	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No increase in council tax is supported rather it needs to be reduced	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Sorry but don't agree with this at all! In this difficult time with the gas and electricity prices this is a bad news to increase the council tax!	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I absolutely would not accept a higher increase. People can't afford to eat or heat their homes. Where do we find more money?	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council Tax is wildly regressive and shouldn't be increased until the ratios between the bands are changed so that the richest pay more.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	When is normal people aren't getting a wage rise of 10% when you get people on benefits that are getting 10% rise mind blowing! think it's outrageous to put it up right now when people who work really hard can't make ends meet	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It is not the right time to increase council tax for people given the current cost of living crisis this will further impact on families and single occupancy households to stretch their finances further.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would not support such a high council tax increase. Instead I propose a council employee wage freeze, and a reduction in subsidised bus services.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax should remain as is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	older people are struggling financially as it is so no increase in council tax please.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	could not afford any further council tax increases	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No more council tax increases	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With the cost of living crisis I don't think the costs should be passed to residents	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No, I would never support something like that. Sorry	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would favour a small extra increase in council tax (1%) if it was ringfenced for adult social care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Could not give a blanket agreement of support without details of how this would affect / benefit schools / social care.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would struggle to play more	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Keep the council tax low.	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	not increase people will stop paying if it is not affordable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	do not increase as people are struggling as it is	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I can't afford a council tax increase like others I am in a council new build putting me in band E -far too expensive. your affordable housing is not affordable	2. The respondent advised that they either did not agree or did not believe the council should consider the proposal.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Service are already slipping, bins being emptied once a month, areas not being kept tidy, overgrown shrubs, some areas are an eyesore while others are generally tidy. How will the new proposed budget affect the current state of West Lothian?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We pay the highest level if council tax currently and don't get a great deal from that. Even basic street cleaning has disappeared, grass cutting and pavement cleaning are very haphazard and winter road and pavement clearing are pretty non existent. Requests for extra bins for grit refused. Yet, other areas in Livingston appear to get all of this. So, how does this work? Our child is now an adult and lives in Edinburgh, so child provision etc is not on our radar, although we retain a keen interest on what happens in our schools etc.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Cut to the chase , you're putting up taxes again	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't have the depth of knowledge of council budgets etc to answer this question reasonably.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It's not our responsibility to tell you how/where to make the savings needed.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. The council is required to consult with communities on proposed changes.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Are people able to pay an increase on council tax? or would this be arrears to chase, with no staff?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	All council tax raised is used to deliver local services and affordability is a consideration when setting tax levels. The council has existing processes to pursue all debt.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase tax yet provide less- this is becoming boring now. You've suggested many crazy ideas including even cancelling some Christmas lights for kids to enjoy yet you are raising taxes???	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Its not how would we find the additional income to bridge the budget gap - the question in this climate is more simple - how will people find the money to pay the 3.5% or greater increase? I would imagine that the increase you think you may achieve will be well below this as people simply cannot afford any further increases in their household bills and so many will simply be unable to pay.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	no involvement	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	My head is starting to hurt now. Are you asking me to do your job?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'm not in a position to comment fully on this	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No comment as I do not live in West Lothian	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No comment as I work here and don't live in West lothian	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	UTC. Not a WLC resident.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Unsure	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	NA	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I dont live in West Lothian so I dont feel that I can comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not a resident so can't comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Does this mean we are already one of the highest council tax bands for all councils that don't have a city to cover? Mentioning the average for England isn't fair either because London throws their average way higher than the average actually is.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	West Lothian Council's council tax is currently less than the Scottish average across all councils not just city based authorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	N/A	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No Comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	no comments	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not live in West Lothian	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Unable to comment again due to lack of available information.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I can't see any point in continuing this survey as it is a waste of all our time without the information, we need to give an informed opinion.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No comment	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Dont know, but i dont think people can afford any more than they are paying - asking people to pay more but get less as everyone is making cuts, Police/Fire/Council - thats where the council tax goes.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Council tax only funds council services not the Police, Fire or NHS.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As a working people we don't get the opportunity to get a pay rise so how can we pay for something that we already do for increase but our income doesn't ?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would need more specifics to make a judgement.	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't actually know what our council tax currently goes towards for me the pot holes, state of green spaces is shocking	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If you don't ask you don't get. Thank you for asking	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	no	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't pay council tax	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	None	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't pay council tax	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't pay council tax	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How can the council state reduced earnings as a reason for cutting funding after delivering a 4.84% increase in council tax? Again I am repeating myself but still require an answer the additional funding received from increased tax has gone where?	3. The respondent advised that they had no comment to make or posed a question of the measure.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. Costs have continued to increase and by law the council has to balance the budget - this requires either increased income or reduced costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support an increase of more than 3.5% as I am fed up paying for services I do not, have not and will not use eg schools, roads etc. I understand the need to increase council tax by UP TO 3.5% and can see why this is necessary but I do expect that action be taken against those who refuse to pay Council Tax bills when they are legally required to. Too many Council Tax bills are written off as unrecoverable debt and this is why the rest of us have to keep paying out more and more money.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax is a regressive tax that should not be raised under any circumstances. The council through COSLA should lobby for a fairer settlement from the Scottish Government before any attempts to increase council tax. That also goes for the cuts proposed throughout this consultation, more money should be secured from the government to prevent cuts.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point. Council tax reform, including how increases to council tax are applied, can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't agree with raising the charges to all, more effort on finding where there is large wastage is more appropriate.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If we all pay council tax and use our services then our communities will be better places to live because right now there are villages that look like they have been forgotten. Yes celebrate new school builds but let's not forget communities schools that look neglected.	4. The council is already doing this.	New schools are fully funded by developers. The council's capital programme is focused on maintaining existing assets to support service delivery and aims to maintain suitability, condition, compliance and sustainability within available resources.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How would council propose this additional revenue spend to be spent transparently?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has delivered balanced budgets each year since 1996. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. Detailed information is contained in the annual budget report and activity budgets with all funding allocated to supporting local services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Large internal efficiency drives with streamlined delivery and checking should lead to savings	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continues to investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If I thought that schools, social care and health care was a priority and the services provided were excellent then I would, but its seems we are being asked to pay more and more for less and less services.; ; We all want community services that we are proud of but it seems that the councils seem ell bent on ensuring all their council offices are the most up to date buildings in the whole of west lothian	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has undertaken a programme to rationalise the office and partnership centre estate, saving significant revenue and capital costs. There are no plans to build offices with the council looking to further rationalise the property estate.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Start publishing to the penny what you spend your budget on - this will show where you are wasting it and we the people who pay for it can see what we are getting for our money and is it value for money. I sincerely doubt it from the evidence you've provided.; If you can ensure every member of staff offers something and their job is needed this would also help. Do all staff work to their full potential or not so much so you pay overtime. Can you account for what each member of staff does each day?	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has delivered balanced budgets each year since 1996. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. Detailed information is contained in the annual budget report and activity budgets with all funding allocated to supporting local services. The council's planning structure (Corporate Plan, Management Plans and individual work plans) support this.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If I thought you used the money wisely - yes.; But you don't - you still seem to operate in the past where money was limitless.; If you had moved with the times you wouldn't have wasted so much money and you would be in a better position.;	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It would make more sense if you provided monetary figures for the proposed rises. Pensioners and others on a fixed income need to know what 3.5% looks like in financial terms.; In a civilised society education and social care must always be supported to the max.	4. The council is already doing this.	The annual budget report includes the proposed total, monthly and weekly increases in council tax for each band. Further information is available in reports to the council's PDSPs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'm a single occupier so I benefit from the 25% discount and I also received a lump sum discount on top of this as well this year. This was much appreciated.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Reading the above prompts the question, why would increasing the council tax result in an increase of council services when there has been no evidence of this in the last 5-10 years?; As I said earlier, recoup lost revenue would be a good start!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Efficiencies should be explored. Schools and social care should be impacted last.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Approach the Scottish Government, they have run all public services into the ground, the £20 million they have "put aside" for another referendum, which I for one strongly disagree with, would more that cover the budget gap of £17.9 million !!!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point. The £20 million is a one off provision whereas the budget gap is a recurring gap which has to be found every year.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax in higher bands is already so high. Especially when core services are not being met- salting roads at winter, road maintenance, street cleaning, bins being collected	4. The council is already doing this.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support this provided that Council staff get a pay increase that is not dissimilar to the Council tax rise.	4. The council is already doing this.	The pay award for 2022/23 was agreed at a level higher than the increase in council tax.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Social care needs more review. I would not support more funding going there. VFM ends to be looked at. Based on my previous understanding of interactions, especially in connection with dementia, I'm not sure they are even providing a service!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The council needs to charge people appropriately. I pay the most in my street. I don't have the biggest house! Years of mismanagement means this is all over the place. I am happy to pay what I need to but if you make everyone in band g pay band g you will have more money. ; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Efficiencies should be prioritised.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Ask those in government where to get the money as that's their job and why they get paid the big wages. Put cuts on those at the top !	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Consideration should also be given to additional support from central government being pursued. The council provides essential services for inhabitants, often under centrally designated legal requirements. As such general taxation should be utilised to ensure safe and adequate provision of said services.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People are bored of hearing everything is increasing in price. We have all tightened our belts. Maybe you should sell some of those shiny red pool cars you have in Livingston as there appear to be about 30 of them.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council is currently investigating how to consolidate green fleet, having already made reductions, reflecting service requirements.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Enforce your fines for parking, dog mess and littering. You're assuming a 3.5% increase in line with every other business that randomly tries it's luck to put up it's prices up saying the same every year.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We must see the money is spent on the right things if an increase was to; Happen how would council show where this extra money is being spent this is my concern.	4. The council is already doing this.	Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills. The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As I said earlier, WLC should take action to force the Scottish Government to increase funding. To increase Council Tax is to subsidise SG's budget.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Higher council tax for less facilities. There are far too many people not paying in to the system making the deficit worse. Rather than constantly increasing the payments of those who consistently pay while reducing the service they receive you really need to go after those who don't pay for the service they receive. Also I'd immediately sack whoever created this awful survey, save yourself their wage, they don't deserve it!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It would also help if some of the rationale for changes were better explained. We have recently had a new green bin introduced for all things plastic. I now have 4 bins, I don't really understand the need for the split between green and blue bins. I assume there is a reason, and probably some ultimate cost benefit, but this is never explained, neither is explanation offered to try to get better buy in to proposals from people who are interested to understand the pros / cons of these decisions that impact our daily lives.	4. The council is already doing this.	There was extensive information provided on the change, why it was happening and the benefits. This was available on social media, council website, inside council buildings and in the paperwork provided along with the new bins.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It would also help if some of the rationale for changes were better explained. We have recently had a new green bin introduced for all things plastic. I now have 4 bins, I don't really understand the need for the split between green and blue bins. I assume there is a reason, and probably some ultimate cost benefit, but this is never explained, neither is explanation offered to try to get better buy in to proposals from people who are interested to understand the pros / cons of these decisions that impact our daily lives.	4. The council is already doing this.	There was extensive information provided on the change, why it was happening and the benefits. This was available on social media, council website, inside council buildings and in the paperwork provided along with the new bins.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If council tax increases, collection will be more challenging, particularly with the cost of living crisis. This should be factored in when looking at resources.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	CT arrears need to be addressed and process needs to be more robust	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We should be ensuring the rise in council tax is matched by increases in pay for our workers otherwise we risk sending more families into fuel and food poverty. We must also ensure that inflation coupled with a rise in council tax each year does not have a massive impact on our most vulnerable.	4. The council is already doing this.	The pay award for 2022/23 was agreed at a level higher than the increase in council tax. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	However, pressure must also be brought to bear on the Scottish Government to adequately fund local councils. Where necessary, the Scottish Government should be pressuring the UK Government for adequate funding. Public spending cutbacks shouldn't always be the default position!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Cut energy bills of council services, including street lighting etc and reduce the cost of non essential or nice to have services	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Cut council administration costs. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Encourage more investment in our communities from private companies. And put pressure on them to invest in our infrastructure (like roads and things to do). That will increase the value of our homes and communities and encourage more wealth to come to West Lothian.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The council is having to increase council tax for years worth of freezes and insufficient funding from the Scottish government, this needs to be called out more publicly as the general public see it as a council failing. Yes it is at a time when households are under the most financial pressures but it should have been raised years ago this is the result of freezes and reductions in government spending. The Scottish Government should do a review of all public spending and ensure statutory services are appropriately funded everything else is extra and should be chargeable. ; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government. The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase of 3.5 % each year for the next 3 years will undoubtedly create severe financial hardship for a large number of low/ middle income families in West Lothian and to suggest even more than this is unconscionable. To suggest putting people into financial difficulties whilst withdrawing/ cutting back services and amenities which are essential is totally unacceptable.; The Scottish Government who have been given funding by Westminster government should be pressured by the regional councils to pass this on .	4. The council is already doing this.	The council regularly emphasises to the Scottish Government the need for a fair settlement for local government as well as working with COSLA (the body that collectively represents local government in Scotland) to emphasise this point. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Put up the council property rent. And bankrupt the numpties who aren't paying their rent or council tax. Taxpayers are subsidising these people not sustaining themselves for long enough. Action should be commenced as soon as a payment is missed. If they do t propose action to correct it and then follow through on this then they should be evicted.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity. The council has a wide and varied commercial property portfolio where properties are let to small and medium businesses on flexible and competitive terms. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on businesses. It is anticipated that even with changes the council's rents will still be competitive compared to other landlords.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	More efforts should be made to recovery council tax from non-payers as the amount this would generate would be a greater number	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Incomes have in most cases not increased to support an increase of 3.5% in the Council Tax rates for next year. Focus also has to be put on the collection of the council tax for those who are not meeting their annual charge. Those in banding E upwards did not benefit for any additional government support in the recent changes.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How about spending more time on trying to collect the council tax that isn't paid? Early intervention desperately needed to ensure that support is offered to clients at an earlier stage. I'm sure the council would be happier to see more payment plans in place rather than debts being written off via bankruptcy.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Get rid of silly management structures and trim the fat on your pension pots before robbing me of yet more hard earned cash. It's a lottery if you will even empty the bins, yet you want more cash!	4. The council is already doing this.	The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date but continues to investigate savings and efficiencies in management structures.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think there needs to be clearer knowledge about where council tax is spent, almost like an itemised bill so we can see where our money is going because sometimes I feel like I pay council tax for sewage/water and bins and nothing else it would be good to see what it actually pays for. Unfortunately I don't think many people will agree with any sort of increase in council tax especially when the cost of living crisis is happening right now.	4. The council is already doing this.	Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think the council should also be looking to collect council tax arrears from residents of WL before they reach balances that customers cannot repay and look at Bankruptcy as there only option; ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Don't agree with key priorities - they should be climate change, carbon reduction and capture, environmental etc. There is a need to change how we do things. Investing in peoples environment and giving opportunities for green travel, good local services in order to allow those people who can to better help themselves.	4. The council is already doing this.	One of the council's priorities is the environment and climate change. The council's Climate Change Strategy outlines actions in the council's journey to net zero. The council has made good progress in delivering carbon reductions and is ahead of target. The council will continue to investment in the environment within the parameters of available funding where demonstratable savings and improvements to the environment are evident.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	WLC needs to get tough on non-payers of both rent and CT where it is established that the person has not exhausted every avenue to get help and support with costs. ;	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would be interested to see the additional revenue expected in actual terms if council tax rises by different amounts eg. 3.5% versus 4% or 4.5% for example	4. The council is already doing this.	Information on different scenarios is provided in the annual council tax scenario report to Corporate Policy & Resources PDSP. Reports are available online.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Arrears should be chased up	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am happy to pay my council tax and have done since its inception - I have neighbours who refuse to pay, or who do pay and then apply for a refund? How does that work?; Also the same neighbours who don't / won't pay receive exactly the same services as I do. Not fair.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity. The council robustly investigates and pursues all cases of fraud. Discounts for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	There is a lot of pressure on families and elderly due to cost of living and fuel prices increase, Child poverty has a huge impact on physical and mental health. We have tp make sure that they receive all benefits they entitle to	4. The council is already doing this.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Hahaha. You propose a massive decrease in services and we will have to pay for the privilege? Start being more savvy with funding.	4. The council is already doing this.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It's not relevant that some people pay no or reduced council tax to the discussion about increasing council tax for those who do. For those eligible to pay council tax can you make second homes pay more council tax regardless of whether occupied or not and ask specific communities to respond together to give a consensus on which services might be reduced or redesigned for best fit. The latter may give you a better idea of what each group can live with in terms of services rather than each individual which can give you scattergun feedback which can be disorientating.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council maximises its position in relation to council tax within the legal parameters of legislation. The council requires payment of council tax for second homes to help encourage bring homes into use due to the ongoing shortage of houses.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Reduce unnecessary, politically motivated services - for example Gaelic - that are not the Council's core statutory reponsibility, and cut taxes.	4. The council is already doing this.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council's spend in relation to Gaelic is considerably low.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Perhaps an external audit would find more ways to reduce the expenditure. If you make redundancies that means more people on the dole more children needing free meals more help with rents ect ect	4. The council is already doing this.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If we really value the opinion of the public and of council staff, we should be far clearer about the impact upon services and what it will mean for daily delivery of services to the public.	4. The council is already doing this.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Check people who are claiming the once person discount - there are people abusing this.; ; Most people would prefer to pay a bit more council tax to ensure we get good social care etc.; ; It is better to slightly increase council tax rather than change for things like bin.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council robustly investigates and pursues all cases of fraud. The council has a counter fraud team and engages in national fraud exercises with partners.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raise the necessary funds from the house builders and buyers of new build homes that are putting the increased pressures on council services.	4. The council is already doing this.	The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Please listen to local people. We Don't have money or choices if council services are cut or taken away.	4. The council is already doing this.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think the council has already decided what THEY want to do. Please listen to people using the services.	4. The council is already doing this.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. Increasing expenditure or not delivering savings would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No as already stated, people are already struggling and this could tip them over into debt. I really do think that the Council needs to look at the management layers again, there still seems to be too many senior managers. The creation of the IJB has also created higher management posts that quite frankly, should not be happening when the NHS need to spend on actue services and the Council need to prioritize working on strengths based approaches and reducing the need/reliance on social care delivery. This is where the interconnectivity of the council should play its part, more community supports, closer working with GP practices etc., which has not been achieved through the IJB so far!	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Legislation enacted by the Scottish Government requires Integration Joint Boards to deliver health and social care services to adults. Councils and Health Boards are mandated to deliver these services through IJBs. This area is subject to ongoing change as the Scottish Government looks at delivering a national care service.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With the cost of living crisis i think council tax should be scrapped untill the economy resets	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think council tax should be used on improved housing repairs. Road gritting etc and environment	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Council tax income can only be used to support general services, it cannot be spent on housing. Housing rents fund council house repairs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	4: Sell off council land,	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Receipts from sale of land can only be invested in assets and cannot be used for revenue service delivery.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People struggling to pay as it is. The council have been wasteful (bins/paths etc) and need to come up with other ways to rectify their errors. ; 1:Sell off council buildings,	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Receipts from sale of land can only be invested in assets and cannot be used for revenue service delivery.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Reduce your salary costs. Stop all kids from free school meals. Most don't need this. Parents not taxpayers should be catering for their children. Up the rent it is far too cheap on council properties and start collecting all your ct debts	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council must deliver school meals in line with Scottish Government requirements which is currently universal free provision until P5. The scope for charging will be considered, taking account current charges, the position in other local authorities and the impact of charges on vulnerable people and the availability of concessions. The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	In theory, this is acceptable and I would be willing to do this to see services improved and not just maintained. In reality, I pay factoring fees for my house so dont use council services here. I can't get a doctors appointment; have difficulties getting the additional support help my child needs at school; have little /no primary school community groups suitable for my children; have to cue in the morning to leave my home due to the high school traffic and there is talk of adding additional charges for gardening waste. As well as this, the general increase in the cost of living and now added threat of job loses to consider. I am concerned at this time where this additional money would come from and what difference this would make?	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Considering the bins are emptied monthly, there is no facility for glass collection and many homeowners take their bins to a recycling centre when the refuse collectors refuse to uplift would suggest you need to focus on service before price.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think we shouldn't pay council tax cause you do nothing good with it	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree with an increase in the bands A-D	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support a higher increase for higher bands.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Provide value for money using internal resources	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax on lower bands (A-C) should be frozen. Council tax on higher bands should be increased, with greater %age increases for higher bands. It is only fair that those with the most wealth should contribute the most.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Current service offering does not warrant to the cost. Cost should be based on services used by households.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I do not support an increase of more than 3.5% if funding raised above this was spent on key identified priorities - schools and social care.; ; Based on 2022/23 revenue budget: £70.5 m primary school £60.5 mill on secondary schools - = £131 million.; £29.2 mill social work services £4.2 mill Homelessness services + community safety = £33.4 million.; ; What not encourage overpayment of council tax e.g., pay 3/4/6/ months upfront an get a 1%, 2% discount.	5a. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because the council is required by law to deliver this work.	Discounts for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government. The council could not implement such a discount.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	West Lothian has the highest council tax payers in Scotland. More houses/flats being built daily. you want people to pay more?	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	West Lothian Council's council tax is currently less than the Scottish average. Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Due to the current climate the council tax as a minimum should stay as it is, if it is possible to reduce it this should be done.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	A small increase would not be a disaster but only if cuts weren't made. The public feel it is essential services being cut constantly whilst management continue to line their pockets.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We would accept a council tax increase - however we would also expect that our service are maintained and some that more recently have been abandoned (grass cutting, planting, litter picking) be reintroduced. West Lothian - from any approach road looks grubby, tired and unwelcoming.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If the top level staff took a pay cut this would help bridge some of the gap. How can some members of the public pay this year on Year increase with the current state of the financial projections. People are currently struggling buy food and heat homes.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards, the way remaining services are delivered and a reduced workforce. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The focus will be on posts that support the priorities rather than whether they are front line or back office based.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	A lot of savings were highlighted. Reducing council tax and giving back to the people would be helpful in a time of high inflation- people cant afford heating and eating right now.	5b. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is likely that the costs of this proposal would outweigh the benefit or requires additional expenditure.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	5:do not waste extra funding of digital services,	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council acknowledges that our customers expect access to council information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To enable this, the council will continue to look at ways to improve the website both as a tool to provide information on services, but also as a tool for customers to engage with the council, e.g. making payments online.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would introduce council ran paid parking in central urban areas such as Livingston The Centre and football stadium, and Linlithgow town centre with incentives on green/public transport travel.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council previously ruled out a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme. Without such a scheme the council could not introduce parking charges and fines.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The more council tax is increased the less the council actually does.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If wages to increase for many a 3.5% increase will be a concern for many. Review the free transport and prioritise social care over schools.	5c. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it is not consistent with the council's values and priorities.	The council pay award for 2022/23 was agreed at a level higher than the increase in council tax. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax is huge already...not sure what this pays for, bin emptying, but you are advising that we will be paying extra for some of these, roads..are in a terrible state. What else? Street lighting..maybe turn this off from 12/1am till 6 this would save a lot of money.	5d. It is proposed that this suggestion is not taken forward because it has been previously considered and will not be progressed.	Council tax in West Lothian is less than the Scottish average. The council has previously investigated changes to street lighting but it would not deliver any material savings and the cost to implement new technology would outweigh the savings possible.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The visible waste / excess administrators / inefficient practices waste so much money justifying increases is impossible. Watching council road workers sitting in vans for hours drinking coffee while no work being carried out is very frustrating for council tax payers. Observing the short working days relative to the non-council workers and inefficient processes plus the volume of services and monies directed to undeserving residents needs fixing before fleecing hard working people of more money. Try looking at for example setting council rents based on household incomes not at a standard rate. Yes subsidise those that need it but where households have steady income (often at a high level) their rents should be closer to market rates. This would also perhaps encourage Tennant's who could afford the market rates to move to the private sector allowing needy people currently supported in expensive B&b accommodation to be able to be housed in council stock. Currently you bus pupils from Winchburgh to Linlithgow and Livingston passing the newly built schools which have to be open, heated and maintained for one years pupils only. This is a vast unnecessary expense which will continue for years.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Expenditure on council housing is funded by rent from tenants and in some cases additional funds are provided by the Scottish Government. The funds raised from Council Tax are separate and this is not used to fund council housing. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	its very tough due to the cost of living crisis. And there would i feel need to be a fully justified and laid out plan for all wl residents to see where exactly this money would be spent in the areas of social care, education etc for any additional increase to be viable.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The annual budget report has information on each service budget, along with detailed information in service activity budgets. All services will be reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I already pay a significant amount for council tax and don't use education or social care, therefore as a net contributor I would be unhappy about a large increase. Brown bins and libraries are the only service I use regularly and the libraries are very poor.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The council should stop using sub-contractors to carry out work that its own work force is more than capable of doing. Electricians for example are sub contracted to put in flood lighting to a school. The electricians who are employed with the council are able to do jobs like that as part of their role. I have never understood why the council does this.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. Due to recruitment issues, by necessity, the council has to use subcontractors in some circumstances to meet statutory requirements.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Again metrics in trial data must show this approach works first	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not a good time to go so high maybe incremental rises. The public won't mind so much if we see a more modern slicker outfit	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is a difficult one to answer when my income is not increasing by this percentage. Money needs to be spent wisely and social care is a priority to stop hospital beds being blocked by people waiting for social care	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Stop giving new doors and windows to homes for free. Encourage more investment in our town. More nightlife and sports / hobbies for young people (who aren't classed as vulnerable people). This can be taxed;	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would agree on this if there wanst so many council trades men and women sleeping in vans on the streets for a good hour a day. You need to streamline how these people work more multi skilled operatives to get simple multi trade jobs done in one visit. Reduce costs across the board.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Oncraa8ng the council tax by more than 3.5% would helpmthe key areas but very few households could afford it in the current financial environment. Even middle income households are having issues will spending, Not just low income households. There is a limited amount of monies to go around currently. Maybe when things improve?	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Very difficult decision to be made, due to economic situation, working families who do not receive a deduction are struggling but agree that some increase is necessary, could this figure be staggered to reduce impact, i.e. 2% increase then 3 % following year, yes this will create gap, but as previous question, developers should be contributing something to communities as significant profits being made, should have occurred for many years and this could help to offset some of the deficit not all.	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council collects developer contributions for legally agreed investment required as a result of development. Developer contributions are subject to legal agreement and are for specific items such as infrastructure. Developer contributions cannot be used to balance the council's revenue budget.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	raise car parking prices	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council regularly reviews its charging and concessions policy and this can be considered as part of the next review.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Can the savings be found from reduced energy costs	6. The respondent suggested an improvement. Officers will consider how this could be developed.	The council has energy audits across all buildings to identify energy saving opportunities in each building. The council will explore opportunities for reducing the energy bill through the use of renewable energy solutions. The council currently uses Biomass and solar PV panels to generate energy in some council buildings. Other Renewables will be looked at for incorporation where economically viable.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	You're also very fond of trying to line the pockets of shoddy private debt-collectors (cronyism) and openly ABUSE the summary warrant system! - It's entirely disingenuous of West Lothian Council to claim it 'protects' low income households! - Nothing could be further from the truth!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council follows the statutory process and does not abuse the summary warrant system. The council is always keen to agree payment plans with individuals and anyone who is struggling should contact the council on that basis.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	YOU CLAIM... "Although council tax is applied to all houses, not all households are eligible to pay council tax. Various council tax reductions, exemptions and discounts are available to reduce the tax burden for the most vulnerable in society and to protect low income households. "The schemes might exist - but they're NOT fairly applied! - The council has been charging me 100% council tax for YEARS, collecting it AGGRESSIVELY - despite the fact our household income is under £10K and we are on full tax credits! Theoretically we should get a rebate - but you people NEVER process the information!	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council has good performance in relation to processing benefit applications. The Advice Shop is available for any individual or family for advice and benefit checks. Please contact the Advice Shop to check your entitlements.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If WLC could be trusted to spend this increase where they say they will then yes I'd support it but all that will happen is you will give the fat cats a pay rise or waste it on more stupid things like talking bins! Get rid of the talking bins! What a laughing stock they make of West Lothian	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Pay for council employees at all levels is determined nationally. The new bins compact waste allowing savings to be delivered in employee time emptying bins less often. This has delivered a saving for the council, demonstrating efficiencies in service delivery.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I support tax that pays for services that are needed. But in the UK we are generally reluctant to pay tax because we don't see the benefits. But now, and in the past, we face paying more council tax for less services from the council. What other options do we have?; Perhaps, given the stench of marijuana that emanates from much of West Lothian, you could look into harvesting and selling it to generate profits? Let's face it, its current illegal status is hardly preventing anyone from buying it, so why not legalise and benefit from it.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	This is an illegal activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This would be big increase	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It would be good to see money saved where services are less required such as free school meals to all. Staff hours spent on unnecessary paperwork and meetings. Then it would be easier to agree and support a 3.5% increase.	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	The council must provide these services at no cost as required by the Scottish Government. The council will investigate ways to consolidate and better coordinate activities to allow streamlining of operations and removal of duplication. This will help ensure that activities are completed and managed in the most effective way. The Scottish Government requires universal free school meals up to P5 and delivers prescriptions at no charge. The council has no ability to implement these changes to school meals.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I have paid my council tax in full for this year until march 2023 but at age 60 due to compulsory redundancy i have had to cancel my direct debit as I do not know what wage I will receive month to month this is a sorry tale of woe I know too young to retire but too old to get a half decent new job... I am now working full time for minimum wage of £9.50 ph but when push comes to shove then anarchy gets a real possibility yes\no? By the way I claim no state benefits of any kind .. wish I did then I might not have to do this survey	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is fake news	7. The respondent's comment was either not relevant to the question, inappropriate and/or contained personal and sensitive information.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Why does everything have to go up in percentages, the people who are on higher bands and rent are always going to be paing more then the people on lower bands. Why is it not just an increase of say £5/£10 for everybody so its fair.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax reform, including how increases to council tax are applied, can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How much is being cut from Executive salaries and councillors expenses?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council regularly reviews the organisational structure and operations for efficiency and effectiveness. There are statutory functions that the council must, by law, have in place. However, where there are opportunities to streamline business processes and reduce inefficiencies, the council will act appropriately to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible and delivering value for money.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People on benefits should be making more contributions. It is the working people that are suffering at present.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	A 3.5% increase for every band including A to D would be acceptable, but not a disproportionate increase penalising those in upper bands above D. Everyone or nothing to keep it fair to all.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax reform, including how increases to council tax are applied, can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If you are going to increase the price in council tax and everything else then the government needs to up the wages to suit the cost of living. Families and elderly are being put under so much pressure and strain, not being able to eat or heat their home!! Wrong decision!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The UK and Scottish Government make decisions regarding public sector budgets. The council's funding from the Scottish Government is set to be frozen. The council has no control over other organisations and businesses wages.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Those of us with low incomes but living in high band houses would really struggle with high council tax rises on top of mortgage rises and power bills. I realise that it is not in your direct control, but surely it would be fairer for the Scottish government to raise income tax and use the money to support council spending	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Decisions regarding income tax are reserved to the Scottish Government who then make decisions on where additional funds should be invested (e.g. NHS, Police, local authorities).
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	in light of cost-of-living impacts where all service providers and not just the council are increasing prices, it appears the cost of funding these means those in low incomes are likely to be hit the hardest. Could you not apply proportionate increases depending on the band with greater percentage on high bands who are more likely to afford the increases.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax reform, including how increases to council tax are applied, can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As for Blackburn Mill Centre this is in a very bad state an eyesore and does nothing for the identity of the people of Blackburn shocking that this can not be improved on. I believe council should step in and work with private landlord. It's dangerous to all entering it. Smashed glass trip hazards on floor dark lights out and very outdated decor. Sad times.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Although building is owned and operated by a private landlord, it is understood that there are plans to redevelop the centre. The council does not have the resources to take ownership of the building.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The disconnect between property values and the council tax charges are obscene. Especially given the current situation those with valuable assets should absolutely be paying more	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Many of the supposed most vulnerable get help left right and center. While many of the middle income bracket struggle to make ends meet but don't qualify for help because they work. Many do the vulnerable should pay their way I bit more instead of being a burden.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Stop wasting money on other things and allowing parents to demand what happens in early education and the hours	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Expansion of early learning and education hours was a national commitment from the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Maybe if money wasn't being spent on pointless stuff that doesn't get used like 20 mph speed limits and widen paths during COVID what an absolute waste of money to then removed them all again. Stop spending money on unnecessary stuff wouldn't be in this mess	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Spaces for People was a Scottish Government initiative, fully funded by them. No council tax was used to fund these works. Council tax is used to support core council services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Higher band housing is not taxed sufficiently highly. Redistribute the increases, taxing those in the highest largest houses a greater percentage. I'm fortunate to live in such a higher band house, paying surprisingly low council tax. There would appear to be a greater number of higher band houses being built in WL in recent years, so such a relevelled increase would surely generate a greater net increase without hitting those in lower bands with the 3.5% proposed.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Large properties with high value should bear the brunt of CT increases. Not 'normal sized' housing for families and couples	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think the Council need to look at the people who are receiving benefit and ensure they have to pay a portion of this as the large majority of the people claiming benefit should be out working	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Pressure Scottish government to create higher bands like in wales	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am in a high band at paying over £200 a month, i fee the gap between myself and the lower bands is so big. I work 50 hours a week, my husband works 60 hours and we just get by. We live in what is considered a deprived area?! I feel the gap should be looked at and the also an assessment of the houses within these bands because it seems dated. This may generate more income.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The amount of increase shouldn't be viewed as a % the higher the band the more increase. A fair increased amount per cap would be fair to allow the increase to be felt by everyone given	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Depends how much more - 4%, 14% or 44% are all more than 3.5%! Only fair if all bands are raised by same amount. People who have more than one property, should be charged the FULL amount for each property with no discounts. If they can own 2 or more properties, they can pay the council tax for them! In fact charge them double and they might sell up to people who really need the houses.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council currently maximises income within the legal parameters of the council tax legislation. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax for me is shocking. ; People with kids, bigger houses, multiple cars, multiple houses should pay more. They use more area, kore services than others. ; ; Shouldn't just be about property, but number in property	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We all revive the same benefits, we should all pay the same tax !	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Feel council tax is unfair system, The more you earn or try and get on in life your penalized and get the same services if you ae in band A . B,C,D,E,F (or if you don't work you get it free)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People have no money to pay more in council tax as they are taxed more already in Scotland than in England - suggest the higher taxes in Scotland can fiver thus cost.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The Scottish Government determines where to allocate additional resources generated from income tax. To date the focus for this investment has largely been health.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No. With the cost of living rising in all other areas the community can't take this at this time.; ; I would means test the benefit systems better as there are people abusing this costing a significant amount.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The answer to this lies with our Government and Politicians and far beyond a question for staff and customers to answer.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax bands A-C should not have an increase. Those of us that are working full time and get no financial help are already struggling. Schools and social care are important but my priority is to support my family first. I can't afford to do any more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax bands should be revised	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As a family of 5 who struggled to find a house we could both fit into and afford (we are stretched to the max) it irritates me to see older properties at a higher, often much higher price point in a lower council band. How about properly looking at what bands houses fall into. Our 4 bed in Armadale (we couldn't afford Livingston or Broxburn) is in band F based on 1990's pricing- I don't think so. We've kids with disabilities and need a certain amount of space. I'm sure there's plenty of properties artificially low in the banding. If that was to be rectified I imagine it would create a lot of revenue.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Can council tax bands suffer different increases? A-D 3.5%, E-F, 5%, G 10%..?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Free services in school, should be reconsidered. I already pay for milk. Why don't you consider a small fee for transport and meals? Not for everyone but at least for the more wealthy families.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council must provide these services at no cost as required by the Scottish Government. The Scottish Government requires universal free school meals up to P5 and delivers the concessionary travel scheme for children.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	First of all the government should not allow money from the benefits to be used for buying tobacco and alcohol.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Households in band A to D should be paying the same percentage as people in Bands E and F. Households on small incomes can apply for council tax benefit. A few years ago people in Band A to D didn't have to pay any increase in Council tax which isn't right as they are using the services like anyone else and households in Band E and F had to pay the increase. Obviously this was due to the SNP .I would support it if everyone in all the bands are paying the same percentage increase. Some young families are staying in Band E and F houses and it doesn't mean that they have more money than people in A to D bands. Some young families struggling with having to buy their homes and probably on a tight budget	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I suggest re assessing houses which have had huge extensions and are paying much lower council tax rates. ;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	A review of council tax banding when an extension has been added would be appropriate or review of banding every 10 years to align all properties in the county to the same band rate.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Is it possible to taper the council tax bands to reflect property values, i.e. less than 3.5% per annum rises for lower property bands, and more than 3.5% for higher value properties, thereby shielding the less wealthy from these rises, which will be, in effected, compounded rises above 3.5% each year?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No comment section for health and social care. I wonder why? Over 65 with learning disabilities and non verbal any services restbite etc available in west lothian answer not for the last two years at least. Lawyers are minutes from your door	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Adult social care budget saving options are not covered within the council's consultation. West Lothian Integration Joint Board is responsible for planning and budget decisions around health and adult social care functions in West Lothian and there is a separate West Lothian IJB consultation on health and social care functions that can be accessed via the council's consultation. There are comments sections available in the West Lothian IJB consultation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax charges for higher bands are currently at a level where monthly charges are nearly a mini mortgage. If this keeps increasing sling with other increases people who currently pay will find it harder to continue doing do. The way it is paid on value of property assumes you are financially able to pay more seems unfair	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	scrap it not fit for purpose	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Suggest those with exemptions are looked at to help bridge the gap. Generally students work and could pay some perhaps reduced costs. Long term benefits should also have to pay a percentage.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Discounts and exemptions for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Feel I am; Already penalised as I pay more for same size house as other s and re I've less services due to factor as well. Should upscale houses to similar band as like for new to allow for fairer costs across all properties	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I know it wasn't the council's making but we are effectively paying for the years where Council Tax never went up to keep pace with rising costs?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Who knows by how much your main source of funding will be raised by? And what outcomes will arise between UK & Scottish Govt approaches?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Initial information from the Scottish Government is a funding freeze despite increasing costs. This real terms reduction, should it materialise, will not be confirmed until the council receives the local government finance settlement from the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Equality!!! Council tax the most unfair tax!!!! Council services should not cost individuals different rates based on house size or value. It should be an individual tax.....le the poll tax.. Example house ... 5 working adults... council tax £1250.00; house ...2 adults pensioners council tax £3000.00. All seven people have same access to council services nothing to do with property. HOW IS THIS FAIR???????	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Local taxation methods are determined by the Scottish Government. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Yes. Maybe those in massive homes could pay proportionally more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I blame Scottish Government for mismanaging funds, they froze council tax to try and get Independence	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is a hard one when costs are increasing for everything and making it harder for people but understand if there is not an increase each year then further savings are needed to be made by the council. With the increases frozen in the past it makes it harder for people to accept increases again where if there had been increases every year it becomes the norm and more acceptable to people and the increases yearly	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The rate of inflation for council tax seems high (11% over 3 years). This will put significant strain on already high cost of living expenses. Would it be a possibility to have a tax per head within households (over a specific age band)?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Local taxation methods are determined by the Scottish Government. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	So this equates to a 17.5% increase over that time frame?! I do not think this level of increase is possible especially with current levels of pay for people increasing at only a fraction of this rate. ; You will be forcing many families (not just those on specific benefits) to face hardship unprecedented in my time. ; Is there an option of a scaled approach? A band a lower percentage up to higher F, G bands?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't think that is fair in a cost of living crisis to ask people to pay 3.5% extra on their council tax. Also the way council tax bands are decided is very strange. My elderly parents live in a street where the houses on either side of them and which are of the same size as their are in band D and their house is band F, so they would be paying substantially more than their neighbours if the price went up so much. This system needs to be addressed.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If SG hadn't froze the Council Tax all these years ago, we wouldn't be in the mess we are now	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Wages are not rising in line with this increase so this would only put households in further financial difficulties.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Tax the rich.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support any increase in council tax.; To make savings the council should cut services which are non-essential, and should consider reducing the amount of people who are exempt from paying council tax. Any reductions to spending should start with the salaries of senior management. I do not support any increase in spending on social care, unless this was a one off to build more council run care homes where an economy of scale can be achieved as far too much is spend on providing care to persons all living in individual homes. The council should also consider charging more people for care	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Discounts and exemptions for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government. Currently individuals do pay for care where it is assessed that they can afford to make a contribution.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support an increase of council tax if bus fare/transport was free/cheaper. Food costs were lower. Power costs were lower. Leisure activities that provide crucial skills are free/cheaper. (Including gyms, swimming for exercising). More funding went to provide better healthcare at doctors (reduce wait times)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council has no control over external and commercial providers or the NHS.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I am paying more at The Vennel in Linlithgow for council tax than I was in the West end of Glasgow and i have a family to provide for. This is ex council flats with some of the flats still rented/given out through council and some of them let they're dog foul on the walkway without picking it up. I wouldn't support paying more if the area can't be kept clean.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Scrap it	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Needs a total revaluation for better consistences.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I blame ***** (redacted)	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax bandings do not reflect true purchase prices of houses. They were determined many years ago and lots of properties are not within accurate bandings . By realigning bands you would be able to increase costs in the highest bands for those buying houses at over half a million.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council taxes are way too high for middle income families and one student households should have their council taxes waived due to reduced stipends etc.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Reducing council tax would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law. Discounts for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I do not support the increase in council tax, there should be a review as to the amount of money being handed out to households in the form of benefits, allowances etc based on the household income, including a review of allowances within households where pensions exceed expected amounts	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I'm in council tax e and don't get any help both of us are retired and find we get higher percentage increase than people on greater salaries seems unfair	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I would not. 3% is enough and should be applied to all Bands and not just D and above we all use the same facilities and are facing economic hardship regardless of house that we live in.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Apply 3% increase TO ALL Bands is best approach.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support the increase if public sector workers received an pay increase in line with inflation and the cost of living. Charging people an additional 3.5% each year on council tax is unjust when current pay scales do not reflect this. Is the council as efficient as it can be? Can savings be made elsewhere that doesn't require additional cost to tax payers or services like schools and social care?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The pay award for 2022/23 was agreed at a level higher than the increase in council tax. Although the pay award has yet to be agreed for 2023/24, it is envisaged that public sector wages will increase next year. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As a Band F Tennant, perhaps a review of the whole banding process should be brought up to-date. Seems out of date valuing your house from hoping ago.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Share our pain and look at council pension scheme arrangements, DB schemes are very expensive and a very large proportion of our council tax already goes on propping up generous schemes that we don't have access to.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Bring a to d in line with the rest	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The council tax levels is currently very unfair if you are a band E and above why assume people living in these properties are not suffering from the same economic/monetary problems. Everyone should be paying the same considering we all get the same services.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	scrap it not fit for purpose	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Not in favour of further increases - WLC must seek a political solution to the funding crisis with the Scottish Government. The local community should not have to shoulder the costs of this political problem.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Thank you for your comment. This proposal is out with the control of West Lothian Council.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Pre school child care should not be available free for all, I feel that those on bigger salaries who can afford to pay for this should be paying. This would save the council a huge amount of money. I also feel that there are times when nurseries are over staffed due to them running late at night and over school holidays. I feel that term time was more efficient and those who need after hours care should be able to get this from a private nursery. Looking at pre school child care and nursery would help to save money on council tax.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The approach to delivery of early learning and childcare (ELC) including number of free hours is determined by the Scottish Government. The council looks to deliver the most effective service within the parameters set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax freeze was one of the most short sighted policies in some time and has led to this disaster we are being asked to comment on.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	For many years the council tax freeze was a requirement of funding from the Scottish Government.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	COUNCIL TAX SHOULD BE ON THE AMOUNT OF SERVICES PROVIDED AND USED BY THE CONSUMER WHICH IS ONLY FAIR TO ENSURE THE COMMUNITY RUNS SMOOTHLY WITH A PERCENTAGE FOR UNIVERSAL THINGS, WHICH COULDNT BE SEPARATED. NOT AN INTRODUCTION OF A POLL TAX BUT SOMETHING THAT OFFERS FAIR ESTIMATE FOR SERVICES USED TO REFLECT VALUE FOR MONEY	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We're fortunate enough to be able to afford taxes, and we support paying them to contribute to our local services. I think I would rather see affluent families paying for currently-free services - like prescriptions and school meals and breakfast club - before I'd want to see an increase of council tax on those struggling to heat and eat.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council must provide these services at no cost as required by the Scottish Government. The Scottish Government requires universal free school meals up to P5 and delivers prescriptions at no charge. The council has no ability to implement these changes.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Please review council tax banding and update it to reflect the value of the properties people are living in. ;	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It won't matter what the people say it will go up anyway always does or them that does pay it suffer for those that don't and they get the same as those that do pay it which isn't right	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. Discounts for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No. Council tax based on house value is an absolute con. We all get the same poor service why should people with a bigger house and less people pay more	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	yes.but as i stated previously as a pensioner i only pay 20% to council tax but 65% to rent...can these percentages not be negotiated to change?.for example 35% to council tax 25% to rent and 25% back to pensioners...it seems unfair that only those pensioners who live in a council home have rent and council tax to pay when a pensioner who lives in their own home only pay council tax.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation. The council has no ability to influence if individuals have a home paid for by a mortgage or an individual rents from either the council or a private landlord.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It needs to be reviewed there are people who wrongly get a free ride and others who struggle to pay but do.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation. Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The people who will suffer from this are those who are currently working and already struggling with the increase in all bills and utilities. Again, those who choose not to work get more money handed to them on a plate whilst those at the top of the pyramid feel very little change in their bank balances.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Make sure council tax increases are fair and not always the top bands! The banding system is out of date In relation to a properties value in many cases.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't think increasing council tax is good for anyone but maybe add another band for the very big houses seems to be a lot of 6 bedroom houses paying the same as a 3 bedroom	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change bands or banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The way in which Council Tax is calculated. It's based on house valuations from the '90s. This means £500k houses in Linlithgow are paying much lower council taxes than some recent new builds in Winchburgh for example	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raise council tax for the wealthiest.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Increase tax for the wealthiest.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax reductions should not be given to single parent families who earn over £40k a year, absolute joke	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Discounts for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Need to give attention service also specially NHS	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax is used to deliver local services under the remit of local government. The council does not deliver or fund NHS services.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	stop giving free child care to those who can pay for it.; Provide realistic free nursery hours and let those who Can't be bothered to look after their children pay for the additional hours.; Close nurseries over the summer and easter holidays,; Stop wasting money on 20 mile an hour road signs to remove them a year later.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The approach to delivery of early learning and childcare (ELC) including number of free hours is determined by the Scottish Government. The council looks to deliver the most effective service within the parameters set by the Scottish Government. The implementation of 20 mph was funded and determined by the Scottish Government as part of the Spaces for People Initiative arising during the pandemic.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I believe nurseries should revert to being within the school year. I think there are too many free nursery hours and nurseries should be aligned with the school year with Easter and Summer breaks being the same. This would make a great saving and children in ELC will still gain a strong early years education with staff who are not overworked and exhausted, who came into the profession not to have their hours changed without much discussion. The family play such a vital part in a child's early year developments from nurture, communication and a sense of belonging, the time spent over Easter and Summer are important for a child's development in the family.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The approach to delivery of early learning and childcare (ELC) including number of free hours is determined by the Scottish Government. The council looks to deliver the most effective service within the parameters set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Re visit the housing bands they are not aligned you can have someone in an older 3 bed detached paying less than someone is a new 2 bed flat . Are we not paying enough!!!!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council.tac bands should be reviewed, there should be increased charges for larger houses the top band isn't reflective of the types of properties. Families who occupy large houses should pay less than couples who occupy large dwelling	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would support this if services were delivered properly and efficiently.; There is currently almost 200 houses approved for building at Sibbald Brae in Bathgate. This will have a significant impact on all local services and amenities and should never have been approved (albeit with conditions).	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The Scottish Government made the decision to approve this development.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We are in the highest council tax bracket. We do have a big house, but this is because we are a big family of 7. We could not afford a continued increase to our council tax of 3.5% for the next 3 years!!; Rather than raising council tax, the additional income could be found from reducing the number of free pre-school hours provided. Our youngest children do not need to be in early years education for such a long period of time. If families need the provision because they are working, then they should find the means to pay for the childcare. Council provided Nursery could revert back to the provision as it was a number of years ago so that children still have the experience of this type of setting before starting school. This surely would free up a lot of money to plug the budget gap.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The approach to delivery of early learning and childcare (ELC) including number of free hours is determined by the Scottish Government. The council looks to deliver the most effective service within the parameters set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I dont see why a single person pays 75% of a band when there could be 6 adults living in a similar band using 6 times more services etc; ; a single person should pay less; ; why is Band D always classed as the cut off for aid? Why not include single people in Band E as we dont have a dual income to fund many things	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	There should be an overhaul of council tax reductions, exemptions and discounts. People who get these reductions often have as high an income or more income than people who are on a low wage but don't qualify for any reductions. People on reductions are receiving the same services as every other West Lothian resident but either don't contribute anything or very little to council tax.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Discounts for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	No I do not.; I have already completed this survey but would like to add that I think the council do not receive the correct amount of council tax from thousands of households. Lots of properties have been extended over the years and they have not been reassessed for their Council Tax band. I know of homes that are still band D but have almost doubled the size of their property by building an extension and this has not been declared/reassessed.; The council should get on top of this and reassess houses once their extensions or upgrades have been completed so that they are paying the correct, fair amount.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council bands should be reviewed and benchmarked against their current property value, not from the 1990s. Anyone who owns more than 1 property should be charged at the highest band with no concessions.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	make sure everyone pays people on benefits can earn more than I do working but I have to pay.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax should be demolished along with the over staffed over paid crew. If you cut the employee benefits, and bring inline with the private sector, the council will save millions and millions!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How about you ask people on benefits to do something like cleaning streets for the help they get? Let them give something back to community for years of sponsorship from our pockets!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax, I pay this and in higher band, but also have to pay green belt for services that cost far too much. It's ridiculous as start of adambrae does not pay green belt. This is money I can't afford and would be willing to maintain as would my neighbours the small section of grass in our area.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The council has no control over factor fees on private housing developments. This is an agreement with home owners in applicable housing developments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If everyone paid it including people on benefit etc but not sure how people are going to afford more you should look at things such as the increase in the wages of the most highly paid council officials by freezing there wages and putting to the savings into council spending	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by the UK and Scottish Governments. Recruitment and retention of suitably qualified staff to deliver essential services to communities is currently very challenging. This would not be possible as the council needs to continue to have staff to deliver essential services.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax of coarse needs paying but people on some Benefits are receiving more money and paying a pittance in council tax than a lot of working people and OAPs who have to pay the full amount this needs addressing happy to pay but needs to be calculated more fairly.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments. Discounts for council tax bills are determined by national legislation set by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	council tax needs scrapped, services provided are unreliable, and out of date for currant climate.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	council tax bands need to be assessed - banding very unfair.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Schools and social care is the same service to everyone despite where you live so why should higher banding pay more?	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I believe everyone should contribute to the council tax even families/people on benefits - the people on benefits should pay a minimal amount every month as every household the same council services, schooling and social care.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Benefits are determined by Scottish and UK Governments.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax banding - why does a dearer house contribute more? they do not get any additional council resources, the roads, libraries, council services, refuse collection is the same as everyone else in the area so unsure why they should be paying more.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I agree with raising the council tax for those in higher bands but protecting those on lower incomes. I would be happy to pay an extra amount in council tax if it meant improved education and community services, improved roads and public amenities. Also raise rates for large companies whilst supporting SME's and charities.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. Non domestic rates are determined by the Scottish Government.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Band B council tax was reduced this year by cost of living award of £150 for band A,B,C,D. Some people got this award whether they paid any council tx or not as long as they were in Band A B C D. Surely this is not right. I presume they pay water and sewerage rates. ; ; The council tax needs to be sorted out as it is ridiculous. Also, quite a few good houses have been boarded up due to windows etc. been broken etc. It is a proper disgrace to give these people decent houses to live beside decent people.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	There appears to be no consistency with council tax payments in West Lothian, which I feel is very unfair, when we are all treated in the same way, whether we pay or not. We pay full council tax every month. I am 73 years old and my husband is 70 years old and still in full employment and have received no help with various situations e.g., 1. WLC workers would not pick up a fridge freezer which we paid £35 to have uplifted as we couldn't put it in our front garden. 2. Our gas fire is 24 years old 3. WLC will not carry out a gutter repair- Neighbours who pay minimum council tax get everything.	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The Council / Government needs to seriously address the issue of Council Tax banding. The current system is completely unfair and unjust. Accurately applying fair council tax bands would make the entire system fair ... at the moment, I am subsidising people in older properties that are generally much larger and a far higher value. Anyone with a new house built say post 1985 is generally in a far higher Council Tax band ... that older properties. For instance my house is Band G built around 1991, a work colleague has a very large 3 bed city centre tenement flat, is band D and his actual property value is MORE THAN TWICE mine!! How is that just or fair? The Council Tax bands MUST be reassessed !!	8. This suggestion is out with the responsibility of West Lothian Council. Where relevant, we will forward these comments to our partner organisations.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This whole consultation is vague. There's lots of WLC will no longer provide - food, music tuition, bus, teaching, childcare, janitors, sports facilities, service staff, bin collection..... You still want to increase my huge council tax bill - for what exactly?? I'm struggling to see what WLC is still going to provide for my money. Not one positive suggestion, not one ounce of creativity. Not one request for how things could be better just cuts and handing over costs to people you know can't afford any more right now. Shameful.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If you're going to commit to spending the extra on key priorities, there needs to be a clear picture of what would be funded if the increase is implemented that would not otherwise - just saying it's going towards schools when it just gets sucked into the schools budget doesn't help people see where the money is going, there would need to be proper clear ring fencing if that's the proposal you're making.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This is a strange question...you have just proposed huge cuts to schools and social care, but now ask if we would support a Council Tax increase of more than 3.5% if it was used in these areas.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This gets my head going in so many ways. You have spoken a great deal about making savings through the loss of services but expect people to pay more for less.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council Tax is the stick to beat the councils with, it doesn't contribute as much to the coffers as people think but they get good value out of moaning about it.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't believe the funding raised would be used on identified priorities. There is a lot of money wasted by the West Lothian Council at the moment. There are many unnecessary people with fancy job titles, good wages and pensions, there are many unnecessary meetings which achieve nothing and too many incompetent people with jobs for life.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This would be a big increase	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	In addition I'd be very careful about asking a question in this way as people who don't pay any (or a very small amount of council tax) are being asked if they'd pay more they say yes when they don't in fact have to pay at all! You should only ask the people who'd actually have to stump up this increased amount!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.

YCYS 2028 Consultation Comments and Responses from Officers (Phase 2)

WL2028 Theme	Phase 2 Proposal	Respondent Comment	Comment Categorisation	Officer Response
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Funding the budget gap is not our responsibility, council tax is already ridiculous and certainly not value for money.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This survey is too long, and now the text is getting way too long. You need to get some folks with experience writing plain English public surveys working on this type of thing. You're not going to get good return numbers with such a long wordy survey, particularly when your questions are all so vague and seem to be bending over backwards not to clearly define what the change of service is and what the pros and cons are. I didn't read above, too long, and I have survey fatigue.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The format of this survey is poor and does not lend itself to true scrutiny of the proposals. The survey is badly designed and off putting to many given the large blurb of text under each heading - the language is in business speak which is essentially meaningless. There is a lack of clarity on the proposals and the reader is left to assume what the blurb is getting at. This survey should have been in plain English with examples of the proposals which would support greater engagement with the activity. There should be space for feedback on the methodology being used also - this has not been made available which adds to suspicion that the whole process is already decided, and course of action is already determined. The council and COSLA must do more to protect our communities and demand a fair settlement from the Scottish Government. This exercise highlights the political failure of the funding model and it will be the local community that suffers as a result. The end of the survey does not have a 'Finish' button, merely a 'Next'. Overall - very poor approach.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your comment. Your response will be forwarded to the relevant council officer for consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As the cost of living is very high already I do not think people will have any extra money to spend when they are already trying to find extra for food energy and mortgages. I think if interest go up any more then there will be lots of people homeless.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We are all going to feel the pinch, it is all over the news	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Also, and I know that some of the Councillors will flinch at this one, privatise some of the services. There are services within the Councils which could be carried out far cheaper than are achieved by direct labour organisations, and without lowering any quality if properly tendered and with strict supervision.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	As stated before, you are asking the public to comment on financial issues without all the facts which are available to your highly paid officials. What I would want to know is, are you exceeding any spending on your legal statutory requirements. You have stated earlier in this document that you wish to increase charges to match the national average charged by other Local Authorities....Would you therefore look at reducing some of the funding grant to the national average!!! Also rent ... would they increase to the national average.;	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	WLC also needs to be far tougher on tenants who wilfully damage and neglect their tenancy costing thousands in repair costs.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This proposal is focused on operational buildings only and has no impact on council houses. Council house investment is funded from rents, not council tax. By law the council cannot use general services resources to invest in council houses. There is a rent consultation which considers rent and investment in council houses.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Everything else is increasing dramatically for households. Electricity, food, interest rates, fuel. Some families who previously were not in poverty probably now are. Increasing council tax just adds to that. There will be pressure somewhere else in the benefits system as a result....so again just shuffling the deck chairs.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I can understand the need to increase costs but there may be less people who are able to pay it so their may not be as much of an increase as predicted.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.

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Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I wouldn't support any increase where this went to Schools as it would just be an utter waste, West Lothian Council should absolutely consider the Heritage Tramway though.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Given the pressures facing the council in delivering essential services, it is unlikely that the council would have resources to deliver a heritage tramway.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	The issue will be affordability given current inflation and fuel costs.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	; Need to look at final salary scheme; Need to look at what is actually provided to the; Customer when council tax is paid; We pay the highest taxes in the uk	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Council tax in Scotland is lower than other parts of the UK and income tax for the lowest earners is also lower. The local government pension scheme has been subject to review and changes have been made to make it more affordable. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If you start trying to increase council tax by more than 3.5% you are going to end up in the same situation you were before it was frozen when it honestly felt like it was any excuse to increase it. The priority should be to make sure people actually pay it in the first place. Also, given the way the cost of living is going no-one will be able to pay any increase anyway. It is wrong to compare yourself to other areas, as you are not comparing like with like, especially in England. Also, it is the total income you should be looking at, Livingston has a growing population so your overall income is increasing anyway. You could review the bandings but be prepared for complaints	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity. Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We are currently in a living crisis, where people cannot afford to feed their families or heat their homes, impacting on both low in and working families, who do not qualify for financial assistance. If Council tax is increased, I think arrears will also increase as people will not have the means to pay it unfortunately.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. The council actively pursues all debt, including council tax, community charge, rent and commercial debtors arrears. The council will investigate other ways to improve debt collections including strengthening corporate debt management activity.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I don't think you could identify an increase to a certain area again smoke and mirrors! Lose some of the high earning management . Stop using third parties who charge much more than employing local people.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure. The council must consider both internal and external provision to ensure best value. In some circumstances it may be better value to deliver through external provision. The council has one of the leanest management structures of any council in Scotland. The council has delivered substantial management savings to date but continues to investigate savings and efficiencies in management structures.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think this needs to meet in the middle. I agree with a council tax rise but at a time of increased financial pressure on all families 3.5% each year is too much. This is more than wages are going up. I feel a maximum of 2% each year should be considered with cuts made in other areas and increased revenue created particularly from leasing buildings/rooms.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think household's are bleeding out , hemorrhaging money ...; ; This may push many over the edge	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With the financial crisis it is hard to find any increase in household monthly spending. Therefore any rise in council tax should be minimal and only if absolutely necessary.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	It is noted that you agree the need to increase council tax to support delivery of key services. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	On one hand, you wish to increase tax but on the other hand, you will offer fewer services... Where is the cost-benefit for the residents?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.

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Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Raise council tax in line with pay rises otherwise we will be paying far more in real terms.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Well as bands A-D are mainly subsidised - it's not fair or equitable to apply 3..5% to band E and above as this would be more of a financial hit to customers who already pay a substantial amount which by default will subsidise A-D.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The current council tax legislation means that any proposed percentage increase needs to be applied across all bands. In 2022/23 the Scottish Government provided funding which councils had to use to reduce bills for those in Band D and below. This was funded and required by the Scottish Government for one year only.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would happily pay 3.5% increased council tax if that would have an effect (positive) on my daily life. Currently I feel that this is not happening.; Also would suggest again that the council should start collecting debt in a more efficient way and should play an extreme part of identifying issues before they grow out of hand. (debt related issues)	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. The Corporate Debt Team is happy to discuss options with anyone struggling with outstanding debt.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I have a proposal I'd be interested in sharing with the authority that would utilise public buildings, provide hundreds of thousands (potentially millions) in revenue and be transformational in developing our young children both educationally and socially...Hey	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Please provide details to allow further consideration.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Ok so the cost of living goes up, now you are going to charge more but most people's wages aren't going up, more stress to working families as usual.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. A percentage increase in council tax, in monetary terms for most people, is considerably less than a percentage increase in salaries.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Unfortunately, council tax is high when you are on a higher band. Due to deprivation in West Lothian and people living in social housing and ex social housing this is why the council bands are predominantly A-D. However, with someone like myself who came from a deprived area in West Lothian and worked really hard to achieve my goals, I will be the one who has to pay even more on what already is very high council tax.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Council tax bands and the valuations for them are set nationally by the Scottish Government. The council does not have the power to change banding values. Council tax reform can only be reviewed at a national level with corresponding changes in council tax legislation.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	We do not seem to get much for our Council Tax... there always seems to be brand new vans with workers sleeping in them, and it is the Council Tax payers that are funding it.; ; When are the drains going to be maintained? The flooding that happens almost invariably is down to choked drains that haven't been cleaned out for years and years.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs. Where individuals are concerned about the productivity of workers, this can be raised with the council anonymously through the contact centre.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax is far too expensive as it is for the poor service provided.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	So council tax is going to increase but services are going to decrease .. where is the logic in that?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I just feel that we would be paying more for services but getting less for it.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I would normally be ok with a rise but concerned about fuel and mortgage payments currently concerns me about working, tax paying people losing their houses and becoming homeless or pushed further into poverty.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. As the council's forecast budget position assumes an annual increase based on officer assumptions, additional savings would need to be identified to cover reduced income. The council tax reduction scheme is set nationally and determines the level of council tax benefits available to individuals. It is a means tested benefit available to those with income below the prescribed threshold. At a time of significant financial uncertainty and the cost of living crisis, good quality advice services are needed to support people, particularly those on low incomes. The Anti Poverty service will continue to provide support and advice to vulnerable people in the community.

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Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	BUT I would like assurances that all other council funds are being properly spent. How much has just been totally wasted messing about changing speed limits up and then down again? ; What is that other 3.5% being spent on?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The implementation of 20 mph was funded and determined by the Scottish Government as part of the Spaces for People Initiative arising during the pandemic. Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Did you need to waste money turning A listed houses into a conservation area but now you lack this funding to finish the refurbishment of the play park in Bridgehouse? This was done as a vanity project of a certain Councillor. I smell a rat.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The council continually reviews service provision using our Best Value Framework to ensure that we deliver value for the public and continue to achieve the expected levels of performance. There are rigorous internal scrutiny arrangements in place to assure the quality of our services and we are also subject to external audit and inspection.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	There is no way to ensure extra funding raised would reliably go into schools. We have already seen over the previous years how the PEF funding was used, as parasites latched onto schools with gilded promises, wild claims and initiatives, manufacturing titles for themselves and draining schools already dwindling resources.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Pupil Equity Funding has been provided to schools and the requirements of the funding means that head teachers have full discretion on its use. The council's best value framework determines whether services should be delivered internally or outsourced, and looks to deliver best value across all expenditure.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	People are more likely to tolerate an increase in council tax if they are able to see where/how it is being invested and used.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Full details of how the council allocates its resources to individual services is provided in the annual activity budget which is available on the council's website. A summary of key areas of spend are included in the council tax leaflet which is provided along with bills. Extensive information on how the council's funding is spent is provided in the annual revenue budget report considered by Council at the start of every calendar year. This is available on the council's website.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	This doesn't sound like the 3.5% is for new funding to schools , but only to resolve an overall budget deficit.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. New schools built in recent years have been fully funded by developers.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	It is always the middle income who get hurt most. My wage has not increased but my cost of living has.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council tax is dear enough. people are struggling just now because of the cost of living crisis	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	There's not enough money to equal to inflation. Prices are skyrocketing, the main concern is how do we get by this.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	If being placed on services- this would be sorted	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	why charge for additional services such as bin collection, when this is likely a hidden cost in the council tax bill; how much of this fee is being fed into staff bonus etc.; i'd be happy to pay a reasonable fee for council tax IF the service was acceptable	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	No local government employee receives a bonus. All council tax raised is spent on delivering services in West Lothian. Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	To bridge the gap, Perhaps reducing council leaders salary's and tightening up expenses would be a better idea. Ensuring they are working the hours they are employed to work whether that be at the top, or the guys you see having a cigarette whilst emptying the bins, not to mention the umpteen council vans you see parked up at the side of the road on a regular basis where no work is happening. ; Our schools are a mess, our children and vulnerable should be our priorities, why are we not prioritising their needs	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Elected members salaries are determined nationally, with the council fully disclosing salaries and expenses annually. The council has a robust approach to performance management to ensure everyone is delivering agreed objectives and outcomes.

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Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Council services are wildly inefficient as identified in ever area of service. Tighten up and provide same service for less. Bureaucratic red tape and poor staff contracts waste money	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Thank you for your response. Your comment has been noted. The budget gap faced by the council is a result of funding being insufficient to cover the increasing cost of delivering services due to factors such as population growth and indexation. The council is subject to rigorous external audit and both Audit Scotland and EY have confirmed, over a number of years, that the council has robust financial management. The council's aim is, and always will be, to ensure that West Lothian continues to be a great place to live, work, visit and do business. To achieve this aim we will continue to prioritise the money that we spend on services to make sure that our investment has the biggest and most positive impact on the community. As validated by external auditors and other inspection bodies, West Lothian Council continues to perform well against key performance indicators and activities. This will continue to be monitored and reviewed.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	With everything going up you are now going to put our tax up which I think is very greedy. I live in a private rented and pay Alex Adamson because I can't pay both so now this is going up I'm going to get in more debt. Feed the rich steal from the poor that's West Lothian council down to a T	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	Council tax is not a charge for specific services but a tax providing a contribution to the delivery of local services. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. Council tax provides local services that everyone relies on, however a large proportion of council spending is focused on supporting vulnerable people and those on lower incomes.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	An increase in council tax paired with fewer services, eg libraries, recycling centres or community centres doesn't sound like a fair deal.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The proposed increase in council tax would contribute to the overall resources of the council available to fund service delivery. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. The council is required by law to have a balanced budget, with reduced funding the council needs to reduce its costs.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	How can you state there will be a £17.9 million budget gap if you don't increase council tax by 3.5% when the previous sentence say that you will raise 93.249 million with the increases the maths do not add up and you want to cut funding to education !!!!!	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The percentage increase is the incremental movement on existing council tax bills. The £93 million is the total income (including the increase) raised from council tax. Although both these figures relate to council tax, they represent different elements (total v incremental movement).
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	So you stated earlier that spending cuts produced a saving of 30.3 million which helped cover a deficit of 36.5 I believe it was with further cuts to services to alleviate the 6.2million gap. With Council tax increases you intended to raise 93.249 million so that will leave you with 56.249 million and you are still implementing all these cuts on essential services that we pay for through our council and income tax. How do you justify continuous yearly council tax increases when you are constantly cutting funding for services but have a pot of £56.249 million through these tax increases ?	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	The percentage increase is the incremental movement on existing council tax bills. The £93 million is the total income (including the increase) raised from council tax. Although both these figures relate to council tax, they represent different elements (total v incremental movement). Council budgets are set on incremental movements each year, where the movements in income are compared to movements in cost. The council has a gap because projected movements in income are not enough to offset increases in costs. The total council tax budget cannot be used to offset the gap as this has already been allocated in previous years to balance the council's budget - only the annual difference can be used. For context the council's total annual revenue budget is £490 million of which council tax funds £93 million of that. If the council was to fully allocate the total council tax budget to offset the new budget pressures, cuts in existing service delivery of £93 million would be required.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	Any increase in taxes needs to come with a far greater level of detail about what the additional income would mean. The same could be said for all the savings detailed within this consultation. There is never enough detail to allow for people to provide a fully informed opinion and we are then left to assume or preume, often wrongly, what the approach loosely outlined will mean.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think the council will go ahead with their plans anyway, but this will divide communities into those who can and those who have to do without.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. Increasing expenditure or not delivering savings would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law.
Have your say on council tax	6 Your say on Council Tax	I think that the council has already decided on the cuts, but I would like to say that it is poorer people who will be hit worse as they depend on council services more.	9. The respondent made a comment on the survey question.	This document is part of the early stages of public consultation on budget saving measures. Further public consultation on specific changes to services is an integral part of the change management process and will be undertaken as proposals are developed further. Increasing expenditure or not delivering savings would result in additional cuts to services as the council has to have a balanced budget by law. As the council will have less overall resources, the number of services delivered will have to reduce with services being reviewed based on the impact they have on priorities. This will include changes to service standards and the way remaining services are delivered. It is proposed that future spending will be aligned to agreed priorities. It is hoped that by prioritising spend, the impact on specific groups can be minimised.